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Pugh leads race for Baltimore mayor

By **SAM FOSSUM**
Staff Writer

With Baltimore's Democratic mayoral primary taking place next Tuesday, the most recent poll shows State Senator Catherine Pugh extending her lead over former mayor Sheila Dixon.

In a primarily Democratic city such as Baltimore, where the last Republican mayor was elected in 1963, the general election is considered a formality.

Pugh is in the lead with support from 31 percent of likely voters, according to the most recent poll commissioned by *The Baltimore Sun*/University of Baltimore. The poll has a 4.9 percent margin of error and sampled 400 likely Democratic voters. Dixon is runner-up with 21 percent and lawyer

Elizabeth Embry trails at nine percent.

Businessman David L. Warnock polled at seven percent and Councilman Carl Stokes polled at five percent.

Councilman Nick Mosby also received five percent of the poll. However, he dropped out of the race on April 13, giving his support to Pugh, which could push her to victory next week.

Prominent Black Lives Matter activist DeRay Mckesson, as well as the rest of the crowded Democratic field, polled at less than one percent each.

With early voting having started last Thursday, a record number of people casted their ballots on the first day. Four days into early voting, nearly 12,000 people across Baltimore had cast their ballots.

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COURTESY OF SAMHITA ILANGO

Over 1,000 students packed the practice field during this year's Spring Fair concert, featuring Marian Hill, Shwayze and The Chainsmokers.

Safety concerns at Spring Fair concert

Students describe pushing, shoving, inadequate security throughout the night

By **MELISSA CHANG**
For *The News-Letter*

The 45th annual Spring Fair brought Hopkins students and Baltimore residents together to enjoy a weekend of festivities. However, many students voiced concerns about safety issues that arose during the headliner concert held on Friday night.

At the sold-out concert, which featured Marian

Hill, Shwayze and The Chainsmokers, there was pushing and shoving that students said security did not handle properly.

"While it was great to have a well-known group come to campus and have an outdoor concert for Spring Fair, the large crowd and the pushing that was happening made it too distracting to actually enjoy the concert," senior Vidushi Pu-

rohit said. "A large group of my friends and I were pushed to the ground when Shwayze started playing, and it was very scary. I was on top of people and people were on top of me."

Freshman Zi Choo echoed these sentiments.

"Obviously with all concerts, you're going to have people pushing people around, but part of the concert was really

bad, and got a little bit dangerous," Choo said. "When [The] Chainsmokers got on, you could tell that people started shoving and getting to the front."

Students also commented that the chaos of the large crowd made them feel unsafe.

"I felt uncomfortable and irritated being in the crowd where people were

SEE SPRING FAIR, PAGE A4

Funding Homewood: where your tuition goes

By **SAM FOSSUM**
Staff Writer

With undergraduate tuition steadily rising every year, many students wonder where their money goes.

The Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) and the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE) are particularly dependent on tuition revenue because of the University's decentralized budgetary structure. The most recent budget for KSAS totaled \$350 million, with undergraduate tuition constituting 52 percent of Krieger's revenue. Undergraduate tuition comprises 35 percent of Whiting's \$220 million budget.

When graduate tuition is taken into account, 65 percent or more of KSAS and WSE's budgets rely on tuition.

This is drastically different from other top ten schools. Harvard, for example, can subsidize 50 percent or more of its arts and sciences school's budget through non-tuition revenue.

Undergraduate tuition also funds Homewood Student Affairs (HSA), in addition to covering financial aid and departmental costs. HSA includes many as-

pects of undergraduate student life: undergraduate admissions and financial aid, academic and student services, athletics and recreation, student life and business operations.

"Homewood Student Affairs makes up 10 percent of KSAS and WSE's combined expenditures. This funding from the schools makes up about 84 percent of HSA's annual budget. The remainder of the budget is funded through philanthropy and other revenues," Mary O'Connell, senior executive director of student affairs finance and administration, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Housing and Dining maintains its own auxiliary services budget which is funded through room and board rates."

The two major sources of HSA philanthropic support come from the Parents' Fund and Blue Jays Unlimited, which subsidizes athletics.

"The Parents' Fund contributes about \$1.0 million annually to fund student events including the funding of student clubs and organizations — major student events such as Lighting of the

SEE BUDGET, PAGE A5

Earth Week celebrates sustainability

By **CLAIRE FOX**
Staff Writer

The Earth Week Celebration Fair showcased student and Baltimore environmental advocacy groups Wednesday on the Keyser Quad. The Office of Sustainability organized the fair as part of its Earth Week program, a series of environmentally-focused events which will culminate this Friday on Earth Day.

Senior Nikita Singh, Co-Director of Sustainable Hopkins Infrastructure Program (SHIP) described how the fair showcases the work of environmental advocacy groups and brings together different organizations on campus.

"It's a good culmination for all of the [sustainability] student groups to show off what they've done this year...to the campus community and hopefully get others involved as well," she said. "This is such a great community, and it's cool seeing what people have done this year and how



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Students and advocacy groups celebrated Earth Week at the fair.

we can work together."

Looking to the future of her club, Singh detailed SHIP's upcoming project.

"The most exciting thing that is going on with SHIP is that there is a new patio going up by AMR I that's going to be like a barbeque pit, and part of it is going have permeable pavement on it, which is basically bricks that have a little more spacing between them so that water can get through, rather than run off and take pollutants out to our water bodies," she said.

As part of its annual VegFest, Real Food Hopkins held a cooking competition between pairs of student chefs who used locally-sourced ingredients and compostable cooking utensils.

Sophomore Ashley Xie, treasurer of Real Food Hopkins, spoke about the message their student group sought to display to the Hopkins community.

"We're here to let people know to eat locally and source their food from ecologically-sound sources," she said. "We collaborated with the Food Systems Working Group, and basically we try to do product shifts, so that means getting our food from local farms that promote fair trade, instead of a big industrial agriculture."

Aiming to eliminate the University endowment's investment in fossil fuel companies, Refuel Our Future held a photo petition that featured signs explaining why they say students should support fossil fuel

SEE EARTH WEEK, PAGE A5

Experts talk prison reform in Baltimore

By **MORGAN OME**
For *The News-Letter*

The Johns Hopkins Jail Tutorial Project hosted Beyond Bars, a panel of speakers on the criminal justice system, incarceration and reentry into society, on Tuesday night in Mudd Hall.

Jail Tutorial is a student organization that provides academic support for the GED and other subjects for inmates at the Baltimore City Detention Center.

Tuesday's panel featured Renard Brooks, the reentry program coordinator of the Baltimore Mayor's Office of Human Services; Dimonte Brown, the executive director of Out for Justice; Douglas Colbert, a current University of Maryland law professor and former chair of the Maryland State Bar Section on Correctional Reform; Stephen Sfekas, associate judge of the Baltimore City Circuit Court 8th Judicial Circuit; and Sarah David, the assistant state's attorney for Baltimore City.

Jail Tutorial Co-Presidents Haziq Siddiqi and Lucinda Chiu, who are both juniors, moderated the discussion.

Chiu opened the

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Innovative album releases

New ways of releasing albums allow fans to create closer connections with artists and music.

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Does love at first sight exist?

Lily Kairis doesn't believe in "love at first sight." What does "intrigue at first connection" mean to her? **HIP HOP, PAGE A8**

"Don't kill the lesbian"

LGBTQ characters are often killed off in TV shows and movies. Gillian Lelchuck argues that it needs to stop.

OPINIONS, PAGE A11

NEWS & FEATURES

Hopkins celebrates Persian New Year

By **SHERRY KIM**
Staff Writer

The Iranian Cultural Society (ICS) hosted its first annual Persian New Year 'Sizdeh Bedar' picnic on Thursday afternoon. Students gathered to commemorate the festivities with free Persian food and music on the Beach.

ICS Co-President Ana Ainechi explained the significance of Sizdeh Bedar in greater detail.

"Sizdeh Bedar translates to 'getting rid of the thirteenth,'" Ainechi said. "Our new year is called Norooz, and this is the first day of spring. Thirteen days after spring, there is a tradition where we believe that the 13th day is bad luck, so everyone goes outside. They have picnics, spend time with their family and friends and enjoy the day. This picnic on the beach is our own Sizdeh Bedar celebration."

The event solicited a very positive response, especially from students familiar with the Sizdeh Bedar celebration.

"This event is awesome," graduate student Mehdi Pekar said. "The food is great, and I really like the music. It was the first time I've been to an event like this, and I'm not sure how active the Iranian Culture Society is on campus, but this is a really cool thing. They should keep doing more events like these."

Fellow graduate student Amirhossein Ghanbari Niaki echoed this sentiment but added that an explanation from the ICS on the event's cultural significance would have been helpful for those unacquainted with the celebration.

"Since we're Iranian as well, this makes sense for us," Niaki said. "However, I think they could have announced it better and advertised the event more. It might also help if there were a sign or something here explaining what this is for. Because some people have been coming up to me asking what this is about, and I had to explain it to them one by one. Instead, if there were a sign saying that this is a Persian ceremony, and explaining that its name is Sizdeh Bedar and so on, that would be really helpful."

There were students who attended the event without any prior knowledge of ICS or the celebration's contextual background.

"We actually don't know what this is for," sophomore Sherry Chiu said. "But we saw that they were giving out free food on the Beach and

there was music playing. [This event] makes me want to know more. I have a friend who is Iranian, and I was just thinking of asking them more about what this event means later."

Ainechi explained that this was the first time a Sizdeh Bedar picnic took place on the Beach.

"This is the first year we've done something for Sizdeh Bedar," she said. "In previous years, we have also done celebrations for Norooz, the Persian New Year, that's usually held in the Charles Commons Ballroom. This year we wanted to do something a little different. We thought if it was outside on the Beach, more people would be exposed to it and more people would want to come and enjoy our culture."

Since the ICS is still in its growing stages, Ainechi explained that the group could only continue to grow in the future.

"The Iranian Culture Society has been on campus for a very long time, and I just joined last year," she said. "Right now, we are a pretty small club. This is my first year as co-president, so I'm really trying to push forward our presence on campus. This is my first event. Going forward, we will be holding many more events."

Ainechi also explained how there is a significant Persian population on campus and that in her experience, other people have enjoyed learning about Persian culture.

"I know that there are a lot of Persians on campus, but in addition to that, I know there are a lot of people that are interested in Persian culture; A lot of people enjoy our food; They enjoy our celebrations," Ainechi said. "I have a lot of friends that come over whenever I host Persian parties, so I think that there is definitely something in this culture that everybody can enjoy, and it is something that everyone should experience."

In addition, she spoke about how she hopes more students will be aware of the ICS in the future.

"We really recommend that everyone come at least to see what ICS is," Ainechi said. "Many people think that because it is the Iranian Culture Society, people will not want to join unless they are any part Persian. But this is really for everybody. I haven't really been immersed in this culture myself even, at least not that much, but still I am the co-president because I just want to learn more about it. This club really is for everybody."

By **PETER JI**
Staff Writer

In February 2016, the Office of the President presented a \$125,000 gift to the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center to replace old equipment throughout the center. Most of the impending changes are aimed toward enhancing the 2,500 sq. ft. weight room, which will close after commencement for several days to allow for the renovations and equipment changes. When the Rec Center reopens, a third of the current equipment will have been replaced.

For weight room enthusiasts, there will be six weightlifting racks instead of two, and the racks will allow a second person to do exercises on a platform outside of the rack as the first person lifts. All of the worn dumbbells will be replaced, along with some of the fixed bars.

Assistant Director of Fitness Jackie Lebeau says that this is the largest renovations she has seen during her time at Hopkins. The last major renovation involved a gift from the PepsiCo Foundation, which converted one of the Rec Center's classrooms into today's 2,500 sq. ft. fitness center.

"We've had very big projects paired between athletics and recreation, but most of those have been when they redid the tennis fields, the baseball fields and the additions to the lacrosse building," she said. "This is probably the biggest project we've had on the recreation side for many years."

There will also be aesthetic changes to the weight room. The walls will be painted to give the place a fresh look, and a Hopkins shield will be added onto the wall and platforms next to the large mirror to promote school spirit. Builders will also install a new floor with beveled edges that will allow for wheelchair accessibility.

Lebeau believes that students will thoroughly enjoy the changes, especially the weightlifters who will see less waiting time to use the equipment.

"Right now, we don't allow people to be doing exercises outside of the racks, and it's a cause of frustration for our weightlifters. They have to figure out when the racks are less in use in order to get in there," she said.

The fitness center will also feature Woodway treadmills, which have a surface made of rollers that resembles a caterpillar track. Lebeau thinks that runners will enjoy the more natural feel of the surface. University President Ronald J. Daniels was inspired to allocate the \$125,000 when he used a Woodway treadmill while on vacation. In October, he made a specific request to install them in the fitness center.

New spinning bikes have recently arrived and will be installed in the third floor's group exercise studio. Director of Recreation Bill Harrington says that Daniels has played a major role in keeping the Rec Center up-to-date.

"[Daniels] initiated the renovations for the fitness center a couple of years ago," Harrington said.

The old equipment will be reused at other Hopkins facilities. Dumbbells and kettlebells will be sold on Thursday and Friday 12 to 2 p.m. at a sale



KAREEM OSMAN/PHOTOGRAPHER EDITOR
President Daniels gave \$125,000 to replace the center's equipment

"This is another wave of enhancement. We took out the classroom a couple of years ago and made it possible to change out our older equipment in the weight room. There's a transformation of equipment from the past to the future."

The changes were also in response to feedback asking for more space for racks. Harrington says that it is important to keep up with new exercise technology, since user can get tired of the same machines. As a result, equipment such as Olympic lift stations have risen in popularity, while others like hammer strength equipment and Smith machines have become less popular.

"It's a great opportunity for us to upgrade equipment that while still useful, is still not as in demand as it used to be. We've had requests for these Olympic machines as well. Now that cost is being taken out of the equation, we're fortunate to have that happen," Harrington said.

The old equipment will be reused at other Hopkins facilities. Dumbbells and kettlebells will be sold on Thursday and Friday 12 to 2 p.m. at a sale

with Outdoor Pursuits.

Junior Alex Bartzokis says that the weight room urgently needs more equipment. Because it currently only has two bench presses and two racks, Bartzokis has had to wait a long time to use them.

"The stuff in the varsity weight room is way better. The stuff in here is disorganized and old. It's not up to par with other universities. The weights are definitely a bit dinged up — two bench presses, you always have to wait for one," he said. "Everything is always taken, there's a line for everything. More equipment will be nice."

Many students agreed that the weight room is not sufficiently equipped compared to the fitness center for cardio workouts. Senior Tommy Renner, who has played on the water polo team for two years, said he's not satisfied with the weight room either.

"There's not enough weights to accommodate anyone, especially at peak times, and all of the equipment is pretty old compared to other universities I have seen," Renner said. "We definitely need to get new equipment."

Prof. explores complexities of race and religion

By **MEAGAN PEOPLES**
Staff Writer

The JHU Veritas Forum hosted a discussion in Shriver Hall on Saturday called Identity Crisis: A Discussion of Race, Religion, and What Makes Us Who We Are, which highlighted the complexity of human identity. The talk featured an interview with Charmaine Royal, an associate professor in the Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy at Duke University, and a Q&A session with the audience.

The forum was sponsored by several different groups and organizations, including the Hopkins Dialectic, Stepping Stone Ministry, Johns Hopkins Catholic Community, Agape Campus Christian Fellowship and the Hopkins Christian Fellowship.

Royal's research focuses on the ethical, psychosocial and societal issues in genetics and genomics. Her recent work with the NCAA involved sickle cell trait testing. She has also studied sickle cell disease in the US, Cameroon, South Africa and Jamaica. Joshua Smith, a pastor for intentional living at the Gallery Church in Baltimore, interviewed Royal.

Royal opened the talk with a discussion on race. Royal said that even though the social construct of race exists in society, there is no genetic basis. Therefore, race does not exist.

"Genetics and fossil

evidence tells us that what we see in terms of humans — and the differences that we see — are very small in terms of biology and determine very little about who we are in terms of our identity," Royal said.

She also pointed to a study which she helped conduct that asked people to define race, ancestry and ethnicity. Royal

compared the associations people had to each word, using it to emphasize the ambiguity within the terms themselves.

"When we asked them to define race they used color; they used facial features. That was

primarily what they say, and this is really consistent... When we asked people to actually define ancestry many people talked about origin, they talked about geography. When we asked people to define ethnicity, people were all over the place," Royal said.

Following Royal's initial remarks, Smith asked Royal about her identity as a Jamaican woman and a Christian, asking questions about her personal views on race, inequality and faith. Royal spoke about her childhood and how her time at Howard University, a historically African-American uni-

versity, heightened her perception of race.

"We are different, everybody in this theatre is different, but the problem comes when we rank these differences," Royal said.

Smith then asked Royal about how her work will contribute to the faith community. Royal discussed how her work undermines the social structures for

racism while spreading Christian ideals at the same time.

"My hope and prayer is that my work, and how I do my work, and how I publish my work — what I write about and the way I say things — the way I interact with

people, even if they think about things in a different way, that I am respectful of them... I hope my work will help change lives and lead people to Christ," Royal said.

Smith ended the interview by asking Royal if anything could shake her belief in God.

"When he stops doing the things that God does, the things that I see in my life every day," Royal said.

For the second half of the forum both Smith and Royal answered audience questions ranging from the role of the church in combating racism to why

the perception of race in America differs from other countries.

One student asked how much religion should intervene in the political sphere.

"[People of color have] been disenfranchised by system structures and institutions that were based on politics. I think that the church has a prophetic role in speaking to power and speaking on behalf of those that are disenfranchised," Smith said.

Junior Samantha Lindgren enjoyed listening to Smith, since she felt that he offered a different view to Royal.

"As much as I enjoyed [Royal], I really enjoyed hearing from Josh Smith, because he just has a very real and up-front perspective of the racial issues in America. But I also enjoyed getting [Royal's] perspective because they came from different angles," Lindgren said.

Sophomore Keri Frese also enjoyed the talk and the different points of view that the speakers offered.

"I was very impressed with the expertise Dr. Royal offered on the topic. It was a perspective I've not heard often spoken from, the genetic side," Frese said. "A point that particularly stood out to me was definitely the addressing of how the question is more than a black and white divide and the inclusion of the entirety of races and how this construct of race has just led to this negative thinking cycle."



COURTESY OF BAHAREH JABBARI

The Sizdeh Bedar picnic was hosted by the Iranian Cultural Society.

NEWS & FEATURES

Human library fights stigma to promote open conversation



Students had the opportunity to speak with various human "books" and learn about their experiences.

By **KELSEY KO**
Staff Writer

The Human Library, an event showcasing a diverse "library" of humans who have faced stigma and discrimination, took place in Brody Learning Commons on Sunday. The event was brought to campus to raise awareness of discrimination against underrepresented populations and to promote dialogue on campus.

Junior Selma Ahmed, who proposed the initial concept and organized the event, explained the origins of the Human Library. The idea is similar to checking out a library book. Participants "sign out" people who identify with certain backgrounds and through a conversation with their "book," participants become more informed about diverse experiences.

"[The Human Library] is actually an organization that started in Europe some years ago as a platform to fight for causes related to discrimination, stigmatization and promoting social awareness. It was in response to a hate crime that occurred in Denmark," Ahmed said. "They organized groups of people that identified as underrepresented stereotypes. [Human volun-

teers] basically have very frank conversations with people, our peers and the Baltimore community to dispel any notions that exist."

Ahmed listed some notable "books" at the Human Library this year.

"Some of our titles are really unique," she said. "We have someone who is polyamorous, we have someone who is an atheist, we have a Muslim on the other spectrum, we have a gay pastor — a really eclectic group of people."

Ahmed introduced the Human Library last year through The University's Idea Lab, a crowdsourcing website that attempts to produce innovation.

"I initially put this on spontaneously. I was sitting in Brody last year... and there were these girls with laptops asking people to look at something they had proposed, and it hit me that I might as well do what they're doing," Ahmed said. "She showed me what was on her laptop and said, 'Yeah, I'm actually proposing this grant for the Diversity Innovation Grant, it's part of Idea Lab.' And I thought that was something I was interested in, and I submitted this idea. The deadline was in three days, and within

those four days I got 200 votes."

Shannon Simpson, the student engagement and information fluency librarian who assisted Ahmed in organizing the event, spoke about why she decided to collaborate with Ahmed and why she feels the event is an important contribution to the Hopkins community.

"I reached out to her because I'd always wanted to hold a Human Library. I firmly believe that having open conversations with people that are different from us will broaden our perspectives on the world," Simpson said. "Everyone's coming out of the rooms beaming, and

people are going and taking out more books having tried it once. I think that it'll prove to be a very cathartic experience for both the books and the readers."

Junior Kathleen Condy, a human book who represented misophonia at the event, spoke about her experiences with her disorder. Misophonia, meaning "hatred of sound," is a rare disorder in which specific sounds trigger negative reactions in an individual. For Condy, sounds such as coughing, throat clearing and sniffing cause her physical pain.

Condy spoke about the difficulties of living with misophonia in her day-to-day life when those around her do not know about her disorder.

"The anticipatory anxiety is the hardest thing — the anxiety of going outside everyday. When I go outside, I know I'm going to be in pain. I know it's going to happen, but I have to do it anyway," Condy said. "I have an FM system I use during class, so basically the professor has a microphone and I have the receiver, and I listen through the whole lecture through earphones, which blocks out a lot of the ambient noise. It's very limiting socially as well. I wasn't really able

to go to parties, I wasn't really able to make friends easily. There's nothing you can really do in a situation like this but do your best."

Ahmed further explained the significance of the event and its importance in light of contemporary local and global issues.

"With the racial tensions that are happening right now in the United States and in Baltimore especially, I noticed in our community at Hopkins an isolation of different groups and a general lack of awareness about what goes on in the real world," she said. "We kind of just focus on our school here and don't actually take in the diversity that exists around us, whether it's in Baltimore or at our campus. I just thought it would be really cool to make everyone engage and learn something because I honestly learn the most from people and from talking to them."

Tiffany Sanchez, as-

sociate dean of student engagement and a member of the Diversity Leadership Council, also helped Ahmed organize the event. Sanchez spoke about her hope that the Human Library will help promote continuous dialogue throughout the University's student body.

"I often will say that there's absolutely no reason for ignorance. Some-

times people will say that they just don't know or that they're ignorant about a particular thing," she said. "[The Human Library] is an opportunity in a place where someone has agreed to talk about some

aspect of their identity and be open to questions... When you can have an honest and open conversation and not be afraid of hurting someone, I think that can be a really good opportunity for learning. Hopefully the people that came today will continue to have those kinds of conversations."

"I firmly believe that having open conversations... will broaden our perspectives on the world."

— SHANNON
SIMPSON,
MSE LIBRARY



Junior Selma Ahmed brought the Human Library to campus through Idea Lab, a crowdsourcing website.

University website nominated for Webby

By **KELSEY KO**
Staff Writer

The University's recently redesigned website has been nominated for a Webby Award in the category of best School/University website. According to *The New York Times*, the awards are "the Internet's highest honor."

Founded in 1996, the Webby Awards honor excellence on the web and are presented each year by The International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences. The Academy includes over 1,000 web experts, business figures, creative celebrities and visionaries alongside various other Internet professionals.

The University's competitors in the Webby Awards School/University category are the Harvard Business School; University of Southern California, Iovine and Young Academy; New York University Tisch School of the Arts; and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

The new Hopkins website, developed by the Office of Communications, features a rotating number of live photos on the front page. It also includes various infographics, which allow for easy access and communication. The website received the highest marks from judges for its structure and navigation.

The winners of the Webby Awards will be announced on April 26 and then will be honored at the annual ceremony on May 16 in New York.

New student think tank to foster dialogue on Europe

By **ROLLIN HU**
Staff Writer

Johns Hopkins European Horizons, a new student think tank started last month on campus, aims to foster and promote student interest in European affairs. The group plans to bring in speakers and provide networking opportunities for students with a desire to engage with issues in Europe.

Freshman Lucas Feuser, executive president of European Horizons, described what the group wants from its speakers. Feuser said they are planning on bringing Kyriakos Mitsotakis, a prominent Greek center-right politician of the New Democracy party, to campus in the fall.

"It's incredible that he's coming because he's a really big name in Greek politics. He's the leader of the opposition party, and this opposition party has gained immense power, so he's actually lined up to be the next Prime Minister of Greece," Feuser said. "He's coming to Hopkins to come speak with us, and I think that's really an incredible opportunity."

Feuser also elaborated

on the group's plans to cultivate an interest in European affairs on campus through networking opportunities.

"I think what's going to be really important is having a framework for people who are interested or even remotely interested in European affairs to have somewhere to go to either learn more or further that interest," Feuser said. "What European Horizons offers is more than just events, discussions and speakers — they have connections with internships and study abroad programs."

Freshman Alexandra Marksteiner, vice president of European Horizons, explained the group's origins and founding at Yale University.

"European Horizons was founded at Yale University in February 2015 at the European Student Conference," Marksteiner wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "[It] was founded as a think tank to promote discourse on transatlantic relations and to advance a credible plan for the future of the European Union."

Feuser described the process of how the organization came to Home-

"I went to a student conference at Yale about European issues, and it was hosted by European Horizons, which is an international organization. I was inspired by how active, engaged and passionate people were by European affairs," Feuser said. "I knew people at Hopkins who were as passionate about European affairs. I'm sure there were other students who I didn't know about who were equally as passionate, and I wanted to bring that back to Baltimore."

Feuser also explained the importance of bringing wider attention to European issues.

"European affairs have always been brushed under the rug in terms of who gets the headlines, especially when you consider the prevalence of Chinese affairs and Middle Eastern affairs, and at the same time what's going on Europe right now is incredibly volatile. You have the European Union facing its biggest challenges yet, which include the refugee crisis, which include the rise of right-wing nationalism, which include even the threat to end the EU as it is," Feuser said. "What's go-

ing on Europe, it's huge stuff, and it's going to determine the future of Europe as we know it."

Marksteiner wrote about how she had a personal connection with European issues and that discussions on the matters were important to her.

"As a German citizen myself, I have a personal interest in promoting discourse on European issues on this campus," Marksteiner wrote. "I joined European Horizons because I thought it would be nice to be able to discuss the problems my home country faces with people interested in European affairs. Topics such as the refugee crisis or the Schengen breakdown are very close to my heart, as I see the effects of these issues when I go home."

Nicolas Jabko, an associate professor of political science, expanded on his role as the organization's faculty advisor and described the need for more dialogue on campus about European affairs.

"I sometimes feel that Europe as a region of the world is a bit neglected at Hopkins. Despite all its problems, Europe remains a very important region of the world and

the European Union is a critical partner to the United States," Jabko wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "A new student group would therefore be a very welcome venue for discussing European affairs and their broader relevance beyond Europe's borders."

Jabko also explained how this student group would strengthen students' knowledge of Europe.

"My experience as a teacher at Hopkins is that this knowledge can often be a little superficial," Jabko wrote. "A student group for discussing European affairs on campus would greatly help deepen students' knowledge of and curiosity about Europe."

Freshman Brianna So supports the group's endeavors to spread awareness about European affairs on campus.

"I think it's good that they're doing this because on campus right now we don't really have a group solely for European issues," she said. "We actually haven't had many speakers from Europe or any group to promote their issues. I think it's good to make students more aware."

NEWS & FEATURES

Students and community enjoy Spring Fair

SPRING FAIR, FROM A1
pushing and shoving that students said security did not handle properly.

"While it was great to have a well-known group come to campus and have an outdoor concert for Spring Fair, the large crowd and the pushing that was happening made it too distracting to actually enjoy the concert," senior Vidushi Purohit said. "A large group of my friends and I were pushed to the ground when Shwayze started playing and it was very scary. I was on top of people and people were on top of me."

Freshman Zi Choo echoed these sentiments.

"Obviously with all concerts, you're going to have people pushing people around, but part of the concert was really bad, and got a little bit dangerous," freshman Zi Choo said. "When [the] Chainsmokers got on, you could tell that people started shoving and getting to the front."

Students also commented that the chaos of the large crowd made them feel personally unsafe.

"I felt uncomfortable and irritated being in the crowd where people were pushing and shoving, then I felt a little unsafe," junior Jenny Wagner said. "I realized I wasn't having fun at that point so I stepped outside the crowd. Even outside the crowd, people were falling over left and right and it didn't feel like a fun or safe environment anymore. I left just as The Chainsmokers came out on stage. I felt like I'd wasted my \$30, but I wanted to get out of there."

Spring Fair executive co-chairs Amelia Gavurin and Jordan Scharf commented on the issue of safety with regards to event organization.

"On the topic of security — we had both S.A.F.E. officers and University Security to manage the crowd, but obviously as with any concert there is only so much crowd management that can be done," Gavurin and Scharf wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Luckily there was a large portion of the field unused so if people felt the crowd was too much they could retreat to some open area."

Campus Safety and Security Lieutenant Stephen Moffett also offered his response to allegations of the crowd being a safety hazard.

"I'm actually kind of surprised by their concerns," Moffett said. "We had 33 S.A.F.E. officers devoted to the event. I myself was personally there overseeing security. I was on the field the entire time during the concert. I teamed up with Student Life representatives, along with Spring Fair representatives. We



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Students enjoyed the food and entertainment along with several new additions at Spring Fair this year.

were there on the field as a team. I had two Baltimore city police officers, five campus police officers in addition to myself, six HERO members all on the field."

Moffett explained that campus security and S.A.F.E. worked in tandem to ensure students' safety throughout the entirety of the event.

"We don't want to interfere with the festiveness," he said. "We don't want to start telling people 'you can't get near the stage' and when we saw people kind of rush towards the stage, S.A.F.E. then deployed additional personnel to hold the barriers and the bike racks. S.A.F.E. personnel were literally on the frontlines. They deployed additional personnel."

Moffett emphasized that security officers were continuously talking to each other in order to promote a safe environment at the concert.

"We were in constant communication with each other. I even had S.A.F.E. people on the roof of the Rec Center, looking down, to see from a higher vantage point," Moffett said. "Again, we didn't want to interfere with everyone's fun just because. If anyone had approached me and informed me of a major issue, I would have stopped the concert if I had to. But I never saw the need to, at that point."

S.A.F.E. declined to comment.

Aside from the security concerns at the concert on Friday night, many students were pleased with the rest of this year's Spring Fair, which saw the introduction of the very first Gilman Tunnel Party, an underground rave. At night, there was a Beer Patio in front of Latrobe Hall.

Spring Fair co-chairs Gavurin and Scharf spoke about the Tunnel Party's success.

"In all years past the Saturday night event has been rather unpopular so in comparison to that the Tunnel Rave was a huge success," Gavurin and Scharf wrote. "Many people showed up and danced. It was nice to see students out on campus

doing something we don't normally do — have fun."

Lieutenant Moffett also attested to the Tunnel Party's success from a security standpoint.

"It was very orderly and the students were very well-behaved," he said. "They were obviously having a good time. It wasn't overly packed with people. Vaguely, I'd say 100 to 150 people attended. The capacity for the event in that space was around 500. So we were well below the capacity throughout."

However, many students like senior Cathy Gong found the party underwhelming.

"I think the idea was good in theory but in reality not so great," she said. "We left tunnel party early because it was a little awkward, and the space was too large for too little people."

Spring Fair also hosted several competitions that students were eager to join in on. The Chariot Race, sponsored by Red Bull, was revived from two years ago. Teams built their own chariots and raced around tracks lined with haystacks.

The winning team consisted of seniors Annie Blackman, Gracie Golden and Alex Dragone.

Blackman expressed her excitement about winning the competition with her teammates.

"I was confused as to why they didn't have it last year because it has always been one of the most fun parts of Spring Fair. I'm glad they brought it back because it was a lot of fun," she said. "Our senior year was our time for victory. It was our last chance so we had to do it."

As to what inspired their team name, "The Patriarchy," Golden explained it was a joke.

"It was a joke because we were saying that historically, the Patriarchy has always come out on top and has always won," she said. "And we were going to win. It was obviously a joke because we are both women, and we were both feminists, but I don't know if everyone in the crowd got that it was a joke."

Blackman said that their win came as a surprise.

"[Our chariot] was inspired by the 2001 movie *Crossroads*, starring Britney Spears," she said. "There's no reason we should have won at all, but we did. We also came out with so much Red Bull... We got to walk around and just hand people Red Bulls. We really made everyone's day, just as our day was made."

Spring Fair also brought in student groups to the vendor area.

Junior Preston Ge said he particularly enjoyed the arts and crafts vendors.

"In the lower quad, there was a stall from JHU

Magic," Ge said. "There was also a stall from some Physics students with interesting physics experiments. So it's an interesting mix of people from the community and people from Hopkins."

When the Thai Student Association (TSA) heard of opportunities for student groups to occupy booths at Spring Fair, sophomore TSA member Arisa Morgan pitched an idea to participate.

"I had the idea of buying small handmade traditional Thai bags and key chains and whatnot from locally sourced places in Thailand and selling them here," Morgan said.

Morgan said that she hopes the proceeds from Spring Fair will help TSA's future initiatives.

"Through [our sales], we get funding for our organization while also educating the wider campus about Thai culture," she said. "Hopefully this is the beginning of something bigger."

Spring Fair also hosted its second annual hot dog eating contest. Competitors ate eight hot dogs as quickly as possible.

The contest winner, freshman Steven Zhang, described why he chose to participate.

"I wanted to compete because I eat a lot, and my friends usually note that I finish before everyone else. So I guess I'm pretty fast at eating," he said.

To win, Zhang said he planned his eating technique carefully.

"I ate all the hot dogs first. You have to minimize the amount of chewing you do, so I was stuffing two into my mouth at once," he said. "I put the hot dog bun in water to make it easier to chew."

Morgan praised Spring Fair for bringing the outside community directly to campus.

"This is a way for us to connect to the greater community for one weekend and then from that, pursue your own connections with the world outside of Hopkins," she said.

Ge touched on his favorite aspects of the fair.

"The reason why I go to Spring Fair is to take myself away from the tedium of what I do everyday," he said. "Hopkins has a reputation that everyone does work all the time, and Spring Fair is a distraction from that. So we get an idea of what college life is supposed to be."

Gavurin and Scharf also expressed their satisfaction with the way this year's fair turned out.

"We felt that this was one of the best Spring Fairs yet, if only because the weather cooperated for all three days of Fair," they wrote. "On top of that, we felt there was a wide array of activities for every person to enjoy."

Sherry Kim contributed reporting.

Jail Tutorial hosts criminal justice panel

PANEL, FROM A1
panel by asking each speaker to share how he or she initially became interested in criminal justice. Sfekas explained that when he first became a judge, he inherited 3,000 probationers from his predecessor and learned criminal law through sentencing.

Colbert discussed his experience with pre-trial justice as a lawyer, which he found to be problematic for low-income clients.

"I could never understand why money decides who is free and who remains incarcerated," Colbert said.

David, who obtained her bachelor's degree from Hopkins, previously worked in the NYPD counter-terrorism department and attended the University of Maryland Law School. She began volunteering at a prison in Maryland teaching college courses to incarcerated individuals and now serves as a prosecutor.

Brown was arrested in 2008 after being pulled over by a police officer for a taillight and then arrested because her car smelled of marijuana. As a result, she was unable to continue coaching lacrosse and volunteering in the Baltimore school system. She is now an activist for criminal justice reform.

Brooks, who obtained his master's degree from Hopkins, previously worked for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as well as the Department of Public Safety. He was first exposed to the criminal justice system while working for an all-women's prison.

"When you have to work in prison, you're a prisoner, too," Brooks said. "You just get to go home and sleep every night."

After a round of introductory remarks, Siddiqi shifted the conversation to exploring the biggest issues facing Baltimore's criminal justice system.

According to Sfekas, the biggest problems are the high-volume courts and limited resources.

"We have plea bargains that make a lot less sense than you might think because basically we are no longer doing justice, we are moving the docket," Sfekas said.

David concurred with Sfekas, noting that people are often incentivized to plead guilty without realizing the damaging effects of doing so.

"What's unknown to people, and something that we need to work on advising people [about], are the collateral consequences," David said. "The types of things that people can lose by having a criminal record are extensive."

Colbert stated that disparities in income between defendants creates two separate systems of justice: one for the wealthy and one for the poor.

The panelists also discussed the decriminalization of drugs. Most panelists agreed that rehabilitation is more effective than imprisonment and that certain drugs, such as marijuana, will probably be legalized in the future.

Sfekas made a clear distinction between marijuana and other drugs such as heroin, cocaine, oxycontin and methamphetamine, stating that the

latter are especially damaging. Brown said that all non-violent drug offenders should be set free and mandatory minimum sentencing should be abolished.

Siddiqi concluded the discussion by posing a question as to how universities and students can promote reform in the criminal justice system.

Brown stated that students can make a difference.

"When you all are in a position to hire people, hire us... hire someone with a record," Brown said. "We don't need legislation or policies. We just need you to say, 'You can work here.' We need real people to use their privilege to do real things."

Brooks encouraged students to promote research for reentry programs and to study criminal justice. David stressed the importance of community engagement in Baltimore for Hopkins students. Colbert said that students at elite schools such as Hopkins should use their voices to demand change and reform.

During a question and answer session with the audience, one individual asked the panelists for their thoughts on for-profit prisons.

In response, Brooks condemned for-profit prisons.

"For-profit prisons are the new plantations," Brooks said. "They are the modern-day form of slavery."

Another student asked how the panelists work within a flawed criminal justice system while still trying to fix it.

Colbert had a positive outlook on the situation.

"In a flawed system, there is a great deal of opportunity to make a difference, to change the system," Colbert said. "While you're working on individual cases, you're also looking at systemic change."

David stressed the need for people to realize they are not confined by their professions.

"Too many people feel defined by their job. I am not limited by my job in my free time in the types of agencies and organizations I volunteer for and support," David said.

Siddiqi explained that the Jail Tutorial Project decided to host the Beyond Bars panel in order to foster on-campus discussions about the criminal justice system.

"It's a really exciting time to be at Johns Hopkins. There's a push on a University-wide level to begin having really needed conversations on criminal justice," Siddiqi said. "Earlier this semester there was the Foreign Affairs Symposium Panel on Policing in Baltimore, there's also the IDEA Lab Ten by Twenty Challenge. Chiu hopes students learned more about their role in the community and were inspired by the panel."

"A big part of being part of the Johns Hopkins Jail Tutorial Project is that we get off campus and we go to the actual prisons and jails in the community and we get to know individuals," Chiu said. "The purpose [of this panel] was not only to raise awareness, but to spark action."



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Keyser Quad featured many vendors along with student-run booths.

NEWS & FEATURES

What does the undergraduate dollar pay for? Groups advocate for sustainability at fair

BUDGET, FROM A1

Quads, High Table, Spring Fair and class-based programs," O'Connell wrote. "Blue Jays Unlimited (BJU) also provides significant support to our athletic programs, helping to support travel, team expenses, and some assistant coaching salaries."

Krieger and Whiting run leaner than it might seem, operating at a 2 percent margin.

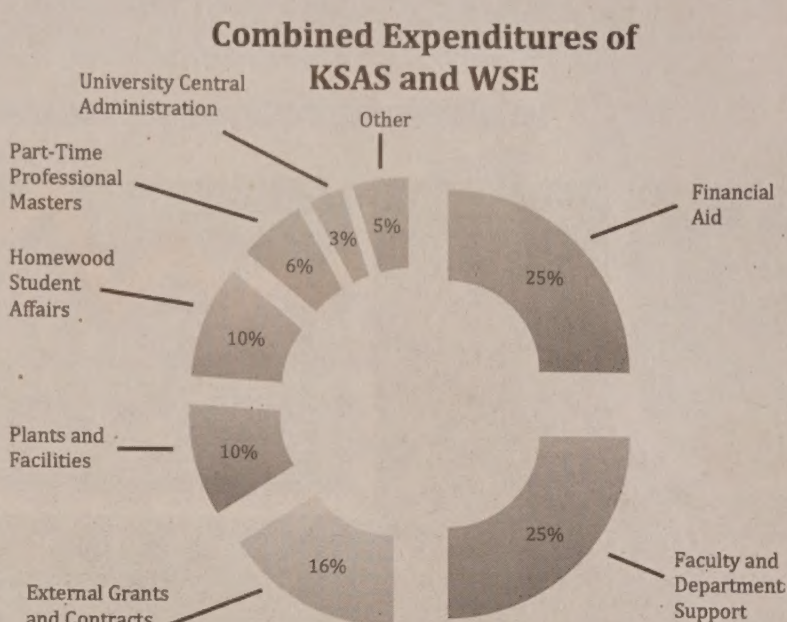
"I don't think the students and faculty really appreciate the complexity, and at the end of the day there is no profit. It's not like there is a huge reserve sitting out there. We try to manage to a margin, which is around a 2 percent margin, which means our expenses are less than our revenues by 2 percent," James Aumiller, the senior associate dean of finance and administration for WSE, said. "But even at that, I am struggling to make that [this year]. I'm hoping to just be positive."

This 2 percent margin gets put into a contingency fund in the event that any financial emergencies arise. Daniel Cronin, senior associate dean of finance and administration for KSAS, emphasized that the main goal is to ensure smooth transitions when allocating and moving different parts of the budget.

"Part of our job is to make sure to think about the unexpected and help plan for it," Cronin said. "That we understand our budget and know the pieces that are movable, and how we can make sure we don't interrupt the educational and research mission."

Aumiller compared the University's bottom-up structure to centralized schools where money is distributed from the top-down. The downside to decentralization is that the Homewood schools, unlike more centralized universities, cannot access the revenue streams of more profitable schools like the School of Medicine. However, this structure does give each school more flexibility and autonomy when allocating their budgets.

Even though a wide degree of autonomy exists between many of the University's schools, Krieger and Whiting have a more symbiotic relationship. The two schools have many of the same expenditures because of their



GRAPHIC BY PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS/SOURCE: KSAS AND WSE BUDGET OFFICES

shared resources and student bodies.

"Whiting and Krieger are really joined at the hip. I don't know how many hours a week Jim and I probably spend with each other in different meetings, so it's not like we're strangers," Cronin said.

Aumiller elaborated on this relationship by describing the services both schools support financially.

"We share the library, for instance. We both fund it and help pay for it, but we share it," he said. "Same with admissions, registrar — all the things related to undergraduate student services — is all centralized under an umbrella called Homewood Student Affairs, which Whiting and Krieger fund."

There are also different entities funded by Krieger and Whiting that support the Homewood campus. According to Cronin, 25 percent of the total expenditure for KSAS and WSE pays for faculty and departmental support. An additional 25 percent goes to student financial aid, 16 percent to external grants and contracts, 10 percent to plant and facilities, 10 percent to Homewood Student Affairs (HSA) and 3 percent to the University's central administration.

"We have different entities that run different things. For example

plant operations has its own director, David Ashwood, who runs what's going on and he controls his budget, and he makes a request to us once a year that we then fund," Cronin said.

"Our job is to make sure to think about the unexpected and help plan for it."
— DANIEL CRONIN, KSAS FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

count.

"There are many shared services, like all these things we just mentioned, and each of the shared services have a different allocation formula. Some of it is based on things like square foot, sometimes it's based on people and so on and so forth," he said. "Based on that, depending on which topic we're talking about, we know that, in essence, both of us are going to get an invoice. And we're going to contribute to that budget. But then we're done with it. We help oversee it, and they report back to us on progress. Dan and I sit with the deans, kind of overseeing those kinds of operations."

The only expenditure from Krieger and Whiting's budget that does not go solely to Homewood is the 3 percent that supports The University's central administration. This helps cover the cost of the shared Hopkins IT

services, such as the Integrated Student Information System (ISIS). This 3 percent also helps support the Office of the President and other divisions of Central Administration.

"There's a formula across all the schools that gets funded by the University administration tax. It's a bill that doesn't just go to us, but all of the different schools," Aumiller said.

Krieger and Whiting help support a wide range of services around the Homewood campus. Aumiller explained that it is impossible to track where every tuition dollar gets spent. However, he did say that undergraduate tuition mostly funds programs that service students.

"At the end of the day — I have this conversation with faculty all the time — they all think that we track every dollar," Aumiller said. "You give me a dollar and then I can track that dollar and can tell you exactly [where it goes]. We don't actually track it that way. In a lot of cases it becomes a little bit blended, all the dollars."

"Undergrad tuition is 35 percent of my total budget," he continued, "and most of that is spoken for, covering financial aid, covering HSA. HSA doesn't service Master's students and it doesn't service PhD students. It services strictly undergrads. If you really try and follow that dollar, the undergrad dollar is covering all of those kinds of expenses."

EARTH WEEK, FROM A1

divestment. The group also handed out orange pins, the color of the nationwide fossil fuel divestment campaign.

Senior Nava Rastegar, marketing chair of Refuel Our Future, explained that student involvement is needed now more than ever.

"We think it's a great way for student voices to directly make an impact," she said, "and we currently have a proposal to cut the school's investment in fossil fuels being discussed in the Public Interest Investment Advisory Committee, which is the first time a divestment case has been opened since the '90s and the '80s before that, the previous cases being about tobacco companies and South African apartheid."

Rastegar believes that to help the planet, students need to put a focus on sustainability beyond just the week-long celebration.

"[Earth Week] is a good way to get people aware of sustainability efforts on campus," she said. "But I do think sustainability is larger than just a week, and it's important to be paying attention to these issues year round."

Student members at Take Back the Tap's booth promoted affordable, sustainable and convenient sources of drinking water on campus with an interactive game for students, according to President Karina Wohlhieter.

"We promote the use of reusable water bottles over single-use plastic water bottles, so today we're playing water pong as a way to get people to interact with water and drink some tap water and

have a fun time," Wohlhieter said.

Wohlhieter praised the event for acknowledging the efforts of the student environmental activist organizations.

"Earth Week is really important for students at Hopkins to take some time out of the year and just have a celebration of the Earth and have some visibility for these organizations on campus that do really great things throughout the year and sometimes go a little bit unrecognized," she said.

Other student groups present included Students for Environmental Action (SEA), who gave out plants in reusable containers and the Johns Hopkins Outdoors Club (JHOC) who held a Hug-A-Tree photo contest. Some of the off-campus organizations included Healthy Harbor, Baltimore Business Energy Challenge and Relay Foods.

President of SEA and junior Hannah Farkas hoped that the fair and Earth Week as a whole would convey to students the importance of taking sustainable action in their everyday lives.

"Sustainability is definitely something that all students should be integrating into their lives, because being sustainable isn't just something that you should do, it's something that we need to do to make our campus more sustainable," Farkas said. "Sustainability isn't just for fun or for hippies — it's a social justice issue. It's a climate justice issue, so we're trying to raise awareness because with Earth Day it's a perfect opportunity to bring together students on campus."



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Student chefs competed in a cooking competition at Earth Week Fair.

Candidates clash in mayoral race

ELECTION, FROM A1

The high turnout is attributed to this year's competitive mayoral election and the concurrent Democratic and Republican primaries for the Presidential election.

This year's mayoral election is also breaking previous fund-raising totals, as the leading seven Democrats running for mayor have spent more than \$5.6 million. In the 2011 campaign, the top candidates spent \$3.3 million.

As of last Friday, Pugh spent \$1.1 million and still has about \$200,000 available. Dixon has spent more than \$850,000 and Embry has spent \$400,000.

The Political Action Committee (PAC), Clean Slate Baltimore, has spent \$223,000 on television ads supporting Pugh and criticizing

Dixon. It has been a focus of the race's current controversy, with Dixon's campaign filing a complaint with the State Board of Elections earlier this month. The PAC was accused of not disclosing hundreds of thousands of dollars in funding.

The PAC was fined \$55,000 for violating campaign finance laws on Tuesday, April 19.

Both Pugh and Dixon have accused each other of foul play and voter intimidation. Each candidate's campaign has called for state authorities to investigate.

The Pugh campaign has accused Dixon's campaign of suppressing voters. Dixon has accused Pugh's campaign of "buying votes." According to a Baltimore Sun report last Saturday, Pugh recruited potential election day staffers

by offering free lunches and rides to early-voting sites.

Embry and McKesson have also criticized Pugh's campaign tactics, accusing her of offering jobs and food for votes. Embry has also attacked Dixon, reminding voters of how she was forced from office in 2010.

Pugh has denied these allegations, citing the distance that campaign workers are from their polling stations and length of the recruiting process as reasons why lunch was provided.

Even with the recent campaign controversy, Pugh is the front-runner with her lead in the polls and her accumulation of endorsements. Twelve lawmakers recently endorsed her on Wednesday.

Polls open at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26 and close at 8 p.m.

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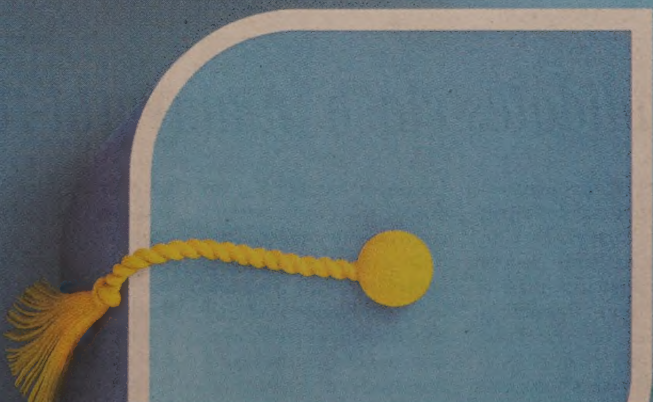


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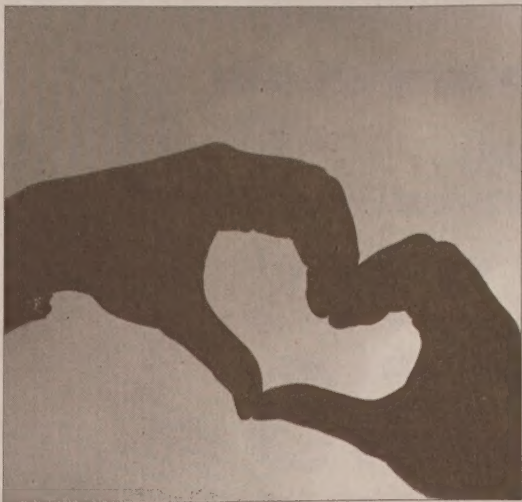
Why I don't believe in love at first sight



Lily Kairis
Un-Poetic Musings

Love at first sight — the magic that children dream of. A Cinderella-style tale: Prince Charming sees you and immediately knows that you are his, he is yours and nothing else in the world really matters. The stars aligned, the fates whispered and something beautiful brought the two of you together exactly how you were meant to be. But is this real? Life and experience tell us that it's not. People are brought up to drop the fairy-tale ideals and settle with the reality that says you have to work for love. Love does not just "come to you." It is disillusionment that often makes the Cinderella dream die. In the ongoing debate between love at first sight and love at deepest connection, people fall into two camps — romantics and idealists. But to me, love at first sight has no place in "romance." I consider myself a dreamer, a poetic, a thoroughly romantic spirit, and yet the idea of a Cinderella-style encounter just leaves a sickening taste in my mouth. For me the problem exists in "sight." How

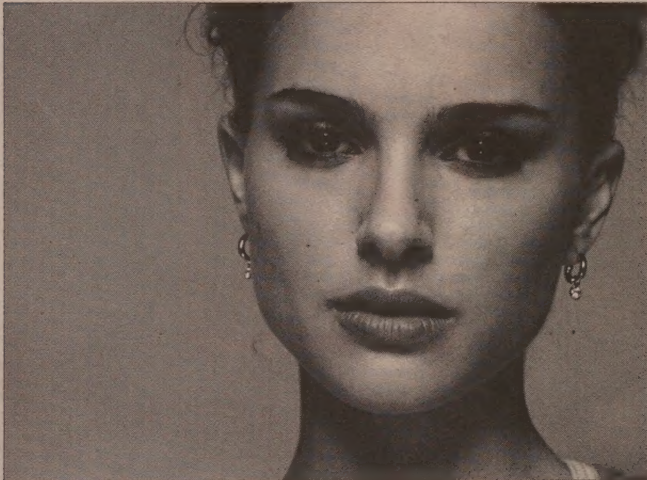
can physical appearance, a purely superficial trait, be sufficient criteria for a connection? In my own experience, seeing someone from afar tells me little to nothing about the soul that resides underneath the surface. Is this person unkind? Erratic? Prone to frequent violent outbursts? Who knows. Their physical appearance provides only a small peek into their whole identity, an identity that must fit and function alongside yours in order for a relationship to work. Relationships do not just thrive on attraction. They depend on communication, compromise and above all, mutual understanding. I would never want someone to see me from 30 feet away on the street and say, "That's it. That's the girl I want. All I need is to see her to know." Because that person 30 feet away doesn't know me at all. They don't know my quirks, my values, my strengths or my weaknesses. In a way they don't want me at all. They want only the small snippet of me that they see. This week I watched the film *Closer*, a 2004 drama in which the four central characters fall in and out of passionate love that often comes "at first sight." How much of a coincidence is it that all these couplings end in disaster?



FARID IQAL IBRAHIM/CC BY-NC 2.0
People are brought up to drop the fairy-tale ideals and settle for reality.

I'll admit that I was hooked by the allure of the romance. The opening scene set to the tune of Damien Rice's song "The Blower's Daughter," which shows Jude Law and Natalie Portman's characters spotting each other on a busy London street was gorgeous. It was dramatic, slow and aesthetically harmonious. As a viewer I couldn't take my eyes off because of this. I felt fully engrossed as if like the couple, I was seeing the person I love for the first time. As this movie proves, these sorts of serendipitous moments are undoubtedly alluring. Not only Jude Law and Natalie Portman, but also Jude Law and Julia Roberts, then Julia Roberts and Clive Owen and then Clive Owen and Natalie Portman (or at least their characters), shared moments of sudden love. Whether the characters were seeing each other on the street or meeting for the first time in an aquarium, these scenes illustrated

how two people, no matter how different and disparate the original courses of their lives may be, can suddenly cross paths. A collision of bodies, a meeting of minds or a connection of souls and spirits and energies. These moments are beautiful because human connection — finding a person you share some common understanding and core humanity with — is beautiful. I've seen it myself, not only on the screen in *Closer*, but also in my daily life. I've fallen in what I'd like to call "intrigue at first connection." For instance: I meet a fellow actor through Witness Theater's 24-Hour Show, we have a conversation, the person opens up to me and I feel drawn, inspired and intrigued by this person's energy. I have connected with them and now see something in them that I like. This is intrigue at first connection, not by any means "love at first sight." After this week I've begun to ask myself: Does anyone really, truly believe in 100 percent, head-over-heels love at first sight? We're not talking about "love at first sight" for either Jude Law's character, who met Natalie Portman's character after she was hit by a bus on the street in *Closer*, or for me, meeting a friend in the Witness show. This isn't only based on sight. And this isn't by any means what we think of when we hear about fairy-tale, written-in-the-stars romance. This isn't love (at least not yet). This is just a start.



SOLETRON/CC BY-ND 2.0
In 2004's *Closer*, actress Natalie Portman stars as Alice, a stripper who falls in love.

The idea of a Cinderella-style encounter just leaves a sickening taste in my mouth.

The reasons you should fall for fall



Gillian Lelechuk
Sophomoric

As spring at Hopkins. It's the most wonderful time of the year. It's when this prestigious university suddenly turns into a state school — or what we like to imagine attending a state school would be like. With Alumni Weekend and Spring Fair, it feels like everyone is drunk all the time, and there are a lot of pretty entertaining school-coordinated activities. But looming over our heads are the dastardly final exams, final papers and final projects. Spring might be full of fun weekends, but that just makes the weeks in between that much harder. Personally I much prefer the innocence of the fall. Autumn is my favorite season but not for the changing leaves or the Starbucks drinks. I love the excitement we all still feel for the semester ahead and for the classes that we know are going to kill us. Maybe this time we'll enjoy getting kicked in the ass. I love the wide eyes of all the new freshmen who are thrilled to be at a school like this. Check your privilege, upperclassmen, and take a hint from those baby freshmen. Hopkins might be hard and Hopkins might not be conducive to a super healthy mind, but we go to a great school and are so lucky to have the opportunity to go here. The freshmen in the fall, not yet jaded by all-nighters in Brody, have the clearest vision of their good fortune. I feel like for many, this semester imitates the weather — and for Baltimore that means unpredictable and dramatic shifts in temperature. Upon arrival in August, we're all warm and happy and our cheeks are pink from the sun and our smiles. Even as it gets colder, we don't mind. After the hot and humid sweats

of the last few weeks of the Baltimore summer, we readily embrace the cool breeze of autumn and don't really mind the necessity to stay indoors and do our schoolwork. It's colder — we don't need to be outside. Winter arrives at our worst moments. Fall semester finals hit us hard, and snowfall and blizzards hit us harder. Winter sucks. I think we can all agree that winter is basically the worst. Sure snow is fun for like two days. But slipping on ice is not fun. Final exams are not fun. Yes, Inter-session is fun, but a winter that lingers way past its groundhog-certified expiration date has no business being at this school. Spring, brings with it sunshine and smiles. Spring Fair arrives and Hopkins becomes Coachella — is it a coincidence that Weekend One also began last Friday? People dress like hippies, surfers or whatever you'd like to call them. Lace bralettes and salmon shorts are everywhere. It's like we've forgotten about school. School certainly hasn't forgotten about us. We've got papers, exams, projects and problem sets. For me at least, Spring Fair is a bit of a nuisance. I can't just stay indoors and work when there are a million different ways for me to spend all of my money just 100 feet from my room. But soon enough, the fun times will be over and all my stress and anxiety will creep back into my life, distraction-free. Finals. Finals. Finals. How many times have I mentioned the horrors of finals? Maybe finals week isn't so terrible for some. But when you've performed excruciatingly poor on a midterm and you really need this final to raise your grade or you won't pass the class and then you have to drop the major, finals are kind of a big deal. So yeah, I'd say that kind of takes a little bit of fun away from the beauty of spring. Maybe I'm a pessimist, but spring definitely isn't my favorite season at Hopkins. I'm all for the sunny skies, and I won't stop anyone from day drinking, but I much prefer the fall, when we're still excited about our futures at this school instead of our futures away from it.

What's the Word? This Week on Yik Yak

Check back each week to see what the anonymous students of Hopkins have to say.

Girls don't want nice guys, girls want cancelled classes.

72

10 HOURS

0 REPLIES

SHARE

Talking to a hot girls parents like "im a big fan of your work"

32

2 HOURS

0 REPLIES

SHARE

I totally thought Chainsmokers was a band so the whole time they were on I was still waiting for them to come out and then it just ended and I was so confused

143

23 HOURS

0 REPLIES

SHARE

Reporter: What's your zodiac sign? Ted Cruz: *sweating* my what?

95

HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and of course, sex.

Heartburn and how to prevent it



Juliana Veracka
Dorm Diets

This article comes to you out of an experience I had this weekend. That experience entails, well to put it plainly, me waking up at 4 a.m. with a burning sensation in my chest and the urge to vomit — which I did eventually, if anyone cares to know. And no it was not because I had too much to drink (I did not have one drop of alcohol, and I'm not even 21 so shame on you for thinking that). Instead the reason I found myself so cruelly awakened at such an early hour was because of what I had eaten.

Heartburn. Acid reflux. Chances are you've experienced one or both of these in your life. I have experienced both frequently since quite an early age. I should note that these conditions do not always induce vomiting (in fact this is the first time I have ever thrown up from heartburn). Regardless, I know that it is not normal for children and teens to experience these types of digestive issues so frequently. (As I have alluded to previously, I am not 'normal' and this is one of the many reasons why I now eat the way I do.)

Generally you begin having these problems more as you grow older. Heartburn is categorized as a burning sensation in your upper abdomen that is caused by the irritation of the esophagus by stomach acid. Acid reflux is when that acid makes it all the way up to the back of your throat and you can usually taste it (often people describe it as you previous meal "repeating" on you). Not pleasant. Not fun. In my experience it's made worse by lying down, which is why it is often at its worst in the middle of the night after a few hours on your back. But the thing is, this kind of discomfort is (typically) entirely preventable.

Heartburn can be caused by eating too much, eating certain types of foods or eating too much of certain types of foods. For example foods high in acid, such as citrus fruits can cause heartburn. So can caffeine (somewhat common in the diet of an average college student) and alcohol (ditto). Even foods high in fats can lead to heartburn. Throw some exam stress and late night study-sessions into

the mix, and students actually become the prime candidates for this type of stomach discomfort. This is concerning because although heartburn can seem like a minor ailment, it can lead to major health concerns such as esophageal cancer if it becomes chronic. So what do you do if you have it? If you've been down this road before, you probably know how to lessen the effects — Tums are a popular fix-it, as I'm sure you know. But these chalky tablets won't undo the damage that's been done to your esophagus, plus they're disgusting. So instead of relief (of which I have never found a suitable method), let's talk prevention.

The obvious method of prevention is avoiding foods that cause you discomfort. Though there are certain types of foods that are usual culprits, everyone's bodies respond differently to different things. If you're having trouble figuring out what foods you should be avoiding, try writing down what you eat everyday for a couple of weeks and keeping track of how you feel each day. Another trick that works for me — picture a meal that you usually eat, and if you get a sort of sour feeling in your stomach or bitter taste in your mouth, there's a distinct possibility that your body is not a fan. I don't know about the medical accuracy behind this one, but I do know that my body is usually subconsciously aware of what it likes and dislikes, even if the food in question is something that I consciously enjoy eating.

In addition to avoiding certain types of food, keep track of how much you're eating — especially at night. Overeating in general can cause issues, but eating too much before you go to bed can increase the potential that you'll experience heartburn. Eating too fast also contributes to acid reflux, so try to be more present while you're eating and be more aware of how long you take to chew your food. Above all it is important to take digestive issues seriously. Heartburn and acid reflux can be indicative of serious health problems and can also cause serious health problems. If you find yourself experiencing symptoms often and are struggling to prevent them, you may want to see a medical professional. No matter how common or minor an ailment may be, it is important that you pay attention to your body. It will tell you when something's wrong. Don't let yourself suffer when you don't have to!



LOU GOLD/CC BY-NC 2.0

Don't eat burgers and fries if you're trying to avoid getting heartburn.

When bad luck strikes: My darkest hour



Meagan Peoples
New in Town

Does anyone else feel really proud of themselves for getting into Hopkins, then do something incredibly stupid and wonder how? Because that's a roller coaster of emotion that I am intimately familiar with. Just yesterday, for example, I was trying to take a picture of Shriver Hall while walking down the steps of the Breezeway. It was a beautiful day, the sun was shining, the sky was blue and I thought, wow, what a nice picture of my gorgeous campus. Then I proceed to almost fall down the entire staircase because I was so focused on picking out the

perfect Snapchat filter.

Yes, it always seems like I only trip when I'm in a really good mood and that whenever I've been having a good day, I run into the turnstiles outside the AMRs. While my natural clumsiness has acclimated me to this fact of life, there are certain aspects of Hopkins that have really helped transform these experiences from a mere nuisance into a truly spectacular display of stupidity. I don't quite know what it is about happiness that seems to attract bad luck, but I've come to associate one with the other. If I've gotten a good grade on a test, I know I'm about to walk into a glass door. If I'm listening to some really good music, I know that I'm about to stab myself on a pen while reaching into my backpack.

Last Wednesday was a good example of this. It was colder than I liked, especially because I had just put away all my winter clothing in an optimistic fit of spring cleaning. The

flowers were out though, and I couldn't help but admire their resilience as I shivered under three layers of T-shirts. I had just had an exam that morning and was feeling pretty good about it, so naturally "Walking on Sunshine" was stuck in my head, which was annoying partly because it was hard to keep myself from awkwardly skipping down the crowded path.

Of course all this smile and sunshine was simply too good to be true. Not 10 seconds into the chorus, I stumble over what I can only assume was a particularly cruel ghost and dive into the ground.

So hello to anyone out who was in front of Gilman last week and saw the 5'1" white girl pull up a solid inch of grass with her teeth after falling into it head first. Please don't judge me too much, and you're welcome for giving you a great story to take back to your friends.

It was truly an impressive fall though, and be-

lieve me I have some high (low?) standards for making a fool out of myself in public.

Clearly this was my own fault for giving into happiness; I know what it does to me. It degrades my senses, lowers my reaction time and while uplifting at first, it ultimately throws me into a spiral of sadness as I attempt to pick myself up with dignity while discreetly pulling grass from my teeth. Don't do happiness kids, all you end up with is a purple knee and the knowledge of what dirt tastes like.

Before Hopkins I liked to think that I was of about average intelligence, but knowing that I go to a school out of which so many future doctors will emerge, I no longer hope that is true. I can barely keep track of my own feet at all moments, let alone other people's limbs and bodily functions. I really hope surgeons don't constantly run into the problem of their feet being not quite where they remember putting them. Can you imagine the lawsuits if surgeons were just constantly tripping in the middle of operating rooms?

So maybe it's a good thing that I don't quite understand how I ended up at (what I'm constantly reminded is) a top 10 school. I mean if everyone was like me... Well, there would certainly be a lot less grass. So if you ever see me around campus with my eyes shifty and my forehead creased with vigilance, don't confuse it with anger or unhappiness. I'm probably just happy and worried that I'm about to impale myself on something.



CHRIS YARZAB/CC BY 2.0

It's a scary world out there. Try and avoid black cats and other things that will bring you bad luck.

Ten showcases you should go see

1. Thoroughfare Open Mic Night

April 21 at 7 p.m.
in Krieger 205

2. The Witness Theatre Showcase

April 21 and 22 at 8 p.m.
in Arellano Theatre

3. The Humming Jay Spring 2016: Hakuna Matata Showcase

April 22 at 8 p.m.
in Bloomberg

4. The Mental Notes Spring Concert

April 23 at 7:30 p.m.
in Mudd Hall

5. The Zinda & Eclectics Dance Showcase

April 23 at 8 p.m.
in Shriver Hall

6. The JHU Ballet Spring Showcase 2016

April 24 at 2 p.m.
in Shriver Hall

7. The JHU Magic Spring Showcase

April 24 at 7 p.m.
in Arellano Theatre

8. Peabody Latin Jazz Ensemble

April 21 at 7:30 p.m.
in Joe Byrd Hall, Peabody

9. Jaywalk and Josh present: Just Dance

April 22 at 7 p.m.
in Shriver Hall

10. Music Dynasty Spring Concert: Please Don't Stop the Music

April 24 at 7 p.m.
in Bloomberg 272

the johns hopkins NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

Security at Spring Fair concert was ineffective

Last Friday, The Chainsmokers, Shwayze and Marian Hill performed for the annual Spring Fair concert. The event was co-hosted by Spring Fair and The HOP and took place on the practice field.

Although a Friday night concert is traditional for Spring Fair weekend, this year's event was noticeably different from past years. The most obvious change from last year's concert was location; instead of taking place inside the Recreation Center, the concert was held outside. The Editorial Board views this as a positive change. This location allowed for the accommodation of 2,500 people as well as provided a better atmosphere for the music.

Tickets for the concert sold out quickly, and Spring Fair and The HOP responded by selling more tickets as 'outdoor-only' in the event of inclement weather. Given the sell out, these organizations should have been better prepared for the large crowd and the dangerous situations that arose.

Security for the event was provided by an outside company called S.A.F.E. Management. S.A.F.E. provides security for various types of events and staffs University functions such as Spring Fair's beer garden. On their website, S.A.F.E. cites crowd management as one of the duties their security officers are qualified to perform. But at the Spring Fair concert, S.A.F.E. failed to control the crowd well.

Security failed to respond to multiple dangerous situations during the concert. Pushing and shoving in the crowd threatened students' safety throughout the night and was never addressed by security. Even when the shoving became so extreme as to push students down to the ground, security only made weak — and ultimately ineffective — attempts to manage it.

The physical barrier in between the crowd and the stage was frail as well, and multiple times, pushing within the crowd caused the barrier to fall forward, almost completely to the ground. Security simply pushed back on the barrier to keep it from falling over, but this response was only reactive. The barriers should have been larger and stronger — it is unacceptable for these safety measures to be easily overcome by students. Following these incidences, security made no changes to prevent the situation from reoccurring.

Additionally, many fights broke out within the crowd, but security seemed more concerned with preventing students from smoking cigarettes than protecting them from physical dangers. Security should have had more staff stationed in the crowd in order to identify and neutralize these situations instead of standing at the front of the stage. Given the massive and expectedly boisterous crowd, there should have been more security overall.

Security did an admirable job of controlling the entrance of students into the concert. The team checked bags and pockets for illicit substances and asked students of questionable intoxication to walk in a straight line to ensure that they were not too inebriated to attend the event. However, the vast majority of their efforts following this initial screening proved insufficient. The responsibility to keep students safe and secure falls upon Spring Fair, The HOP, and the University, and it is not something to be taken lightly. The situation at this year's concert was unacceptable, and we urge these institutions to reevaluate their security teams for high-volume events and make the necessary changes for next year.

Spike Lee to bring relevant perspective to commencement

With graduation less than a month away, many students are anticipating the arrival of commencement speaker Spike Lee. The Editorial Board supports the University's choice as Lee for our speaker, especially given Baltimore's past year. The Baltimore uprising brought many endemic social and political issues to the forefront of our collective consciousness, and Lee is great choice to address them. As students of the University, we live in this city for four years and it is thus a part of our lives. We believe that Lee's speech will be relevant to all students.

Lee is best known for his bold and provocative film direction and production. His past films have focused on bringing awareness to the same issues that urban America faces today. His films *Chi-Raq*, *Do the Right Thing* and *Malcolm X* are prime examples of his ability to combine activism and art. As residents in Baltimore, we have personally witnessed and experienced the issues touched upon in Lee's films. Racial tensions and struggles have recently been brought to the national stage, and these problems are especially close to home for the Homewood campus. We hope that Lee addresses the unique position of students and the University within this ongoing

conversation. Lee's past experiences have provided him with the knowledge to confront these topics, and we are confident in his abilities to link these conflicts to University students.

Some students have voiced concerns regarding controversial statements Lee has made on the government and social issues. We believe that these remarks do not disqualify Lee from speaking at commencement, and we trust that his speech will be more refined than an off-color tweet.

In addition to his filmmaking, Lee teaches at the New York University Tisch School of the Arts. We appreciate the fact that Lee is a professor and academic. His experience mentoring students will serve as an asset while his status as an intellectual inherently adds credibility to his remarks.

The Editorial Board believes that Lee provides an important and interesting perspective on urban issues, and we hope that he discusses these topics at commencement. As the senior class graduates, they will inevitably be faced with similar issues and some will enter struggling communities. We believe that Lee has the wisdom to mentor the student body on how to address and deal with these kinds of issues, and that this advice is essential for post-graduate life.

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OPINIONS

Hollywood needs to stop killing off queer characters

Advice from a senior: take it or leave it

By GILLIAN LELCHUK

Don't kill the lesbian: TV edition

It's an all-too-familiar trope in the LGBTQ* community of television viewers — the lesbian or bisexual character is killed tragically, often accidentally. Since the very first queer characters appeared on television, there have been many women who loved women killed on screen, but the complaints have been flooding the internet after a recent episode of *The 100*. I'd like to add my voice to the masses as I rage against the writers who so frequently kill their queer female characters, and I'll argue that maybe, just maybe, we've reached the end of this "Bury Your Gays" road. Warning: spoilers amass ahead.

The 100 is a sci-fi show on The CW about a group of teens who grew up in space and now have to figure out how to live on the ground amongst the native humans, the "grounders," who did not grow up in space. The main character, Clarke, played by Eliza Taylor, cycles through her series of male lovers before falling for Lexa (Alycia Debnam Carey), a grounder.

This in itself was a big deal. As a strong and powerful bisexual character, Clarke became a role model for the many queer teens who watch the show. Bisexuality and other non-binary sexualities are often overlooked or even erased in popular culture, so, for so many people, Clarke and Lexa's first kiss was a victory for representation.

But then, on March 3, 2016, everything changed. In an episode titled "Thirteen," Clarke and Lexa have sex and a heart to heart, and it really seems like everything is going to be okay. They're finally going to be together. A queer couple is finally going to have a functioning relationship on a show about something other than how groundbreaking it is for a queer couple to have a functioning relationship. Then Lexa is killed. How, you might ask? In the most frustratingly predictable way possible, by a stray bullet!

Lexa was written off the show because Carey is a series regular on another show, AMC's *Fear the Walking Dead*, but her stray-bullet death is all too reminiscent of the death of another fan-favorite lesbian character from a CW show: *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*'s Tara.

Tara was killed in a similar moment, right after she has reconciled with her girlfriend Willow, Buffy's spell-casting best friend. Willow and Tara have literally just finished hugging when Tara is shot by a stray bullet through the bedroom window. And just like that, she's dead, and everyone's heart is breaking.

Lexa and Tara are not the only examples of the "Bury Your Gays" trope: Naomi from *Skins*, Dana from *The L Word*, Sarah from *Arrow* and so many more met their ends to further the plotline of another character, usually a straight character. LGBTQ* characters are under-represented as it is, and too many of them meet an untimely end. Most recently, Lexa's death has sparked a lot of controversy that will hopefully push TV writers in the right direction.

Three weeks after Lexa's on-screen death, the show's creator, Jason Rothenberg wrote a blog post detailing his reasoning for what happened on the show.

"The thinking behind having the ultimate tragedy follow the ultimate joy was to heighten the drama and underscore the universal fragility of life," he wrote. "But the end result became something else entirely — the perpetuation of the disturbing 'Bury Your Gays' trope."

He went on to apologize for the way the episode played out. "Despite my reasons, I still write and produce television for the real world where negative and hurtful tropes exist," Rothenberg wrote. "And I am very sorry for not recognizing this as fully as I should have. Knowing everything I know now, Lexa's death would have played out differently."

The aftermath of Lexa's death means something real. It signals to TV executives and show-runners that people care about queer characters. Representation is important, and LGBTQ* characters deserve to be so much more than an afterthought in a half-assed storyline. This is especially true for bisexual and transgender characters, who are even further erased from the pop culture canon.

We live in an incredible and diverse world, and it is important that the media we consume reflects that. It's important that young children who struggle with their sexualities have positive role models in the shows they watch. It's important that conservative parents have examples of successful LGBTQ* people to look at in the event that their child comes out to them. It's important that people feel like they can turn on the television and see someone who looks like them, who acts like them, who feels like them. Everyone deserves to be seen, heard and represented.

I don't think Lexa died in vain. She has become a martyr for queer ladies on television screens everywhere. She will protect them every time a stray bullet is suggested in the writer's room. We said good-bye to a beloved queer character, but maybe, just maybe, she'll be the last one to go like this. Maybe the backlash against her death will pave the way for more dynamic queer characters in television.

Gillian Lelchuk is a sophomore Writing Seminars major from Los Alamitos, Calif.

By SARAH STOCKMAN

My college career is coming to an end, which makes me both nostalgic and excited. Nostalgic because I'll never be an undergraduate again and excited because I am finally finished. My college career has been anything but traditional. I started off premed at the University of Pittsburgh, studied abroad in Dublin, transferred to Hopkins, majored in Writing Seminars and minored in Women, Gender, and Sexuality. I worked at *The News-Letter*, played cello in the chamber orchestra, TA'ed and went to a grand total of one frat party. I'm not going to graduate school but instead will be moving to New Zealand to work and celebrate not being in college anymore.

So, since I'm graduating in less than a month, I think I'm finally qualified to give advice. I'm not sure I'm quite old enough to say, "Back in my day," but I'm definitely in a position to give advice about college.

My college story is not everyone's college story. These snippets of advice (in no particular order) are not meant to dictate how you should go about your remaining time at Hopkins. However, hopefully they'll give you a nudge in a direction you haven't quite gone in yet.

Get off campus. I know you've heard this from everyone at Hopkins — I know I have — but that's because it's true. Even if it's just to walk to The Charmery in Hampden for ice cream. This past school year I've forced myself to leave the Hopkins bubble at least once a week, and it has made a world of difference with my ability to cope with basically living in the library.

Grades are important, but not as important as your sanity. Grades may seem important since you've been obsessing about them since middle school, but they're really not. They don't actually measure much about you, except whether you're good at taking multiple-choice exams, writing epic papers and talking in class. When you're applying to grad school, grades are only a fraction of the application. Surviving all four years at Hopkins is equally, if not more, important.

Take a class outside of your comfort zone. I'm a Writing Seminars major, which, at this school, seems to mean that I'm only supposed to take writing classes and some humanities classes. I didn't agree with this philosophy, so I took classes in psychology and science. Knowing more than just writing has helped me considerably with my writing and overall knowledge. Don't limit yourself by what you're good at. If you're a science major, make sure you know how to write. If you're majoring in the humanities, take a science or engineering class.

Take a finance class. I've spent this past semester reading way too many financial books trying to figure out how to be an adult when I graduate. It may suck as a class (if you're like me and not into math), but learning how to handle money is something that will benefit you for the rest of your life.

Have fun. By this I do not mean go out and drink until you can't remember anything. I mean make sure your college experience is a good one. College should be a time for learning and growing, making really good friends and discovering what you want to do with your life. If you find yourself hating Hopkins and everyone at school, perhaps Hopkins is not the right school for you.

Ask for help. This is essential. It is impossible to finish college without help. Whether you need a friend to get you soup for your cold, a professor to explain math or a counselor to help you cope with depression, make sure you ask for the help. No one is going to judge you, and people are very willing to be of assistance.

Go to office hours. I'm not a shy person, so I have gone to office hours when I need help. However, I've discovered that going to office hours even when I didn't need help was very beneficial. Professors aren't just there to discuss class. They're happy to help with

life-related questions or to just talk about life. Plus, if having a conversation with a professional in their field isn't a strong enough incentive, knowing a professor will help you when you need a letter of recommendation for graduate school.

Study abroad. I studied at Trinity College in Dublin. And, of course, traveled all of over Europe because I could. Study abroad, even if you think you can't. Being in a different country, even if the people speak English, is an enlightening experience. Plus, it's a way to take a break from Hopkins and learn about cultures outside of America. Trust me, it'll be great.

Take a break if you need it. Whether this means skipping a class because you need to sleep or deciding to take a semester off, do it. If you're a mental and physical disaster for four years of college, you're not going to do very well. It's important to take care of yourself so that you can do well in classes, make good friends and overall make good life decisions.

There is not right way to college. I certainly did not have the "college experience." I did not drink, do drugs or go to parties. I ended up going to three different universities in four years. I switched from pre-med to Writing Seminars. And yet, I still managed to have a good time and enjoy myself. You are an individual. You do not need to conform to what movies tell you are the right way to be college students. Be different and choose to do what makes you happy.

Sarah Stockman is a senior Writing Seminars major from Los Angeles.

Errata: April 14 Edition

In the April 14, 2016 edition of *The News-Letter*, Tommy Koh was identified as a freshman. He is a sophomore.

The News-Letter regrets this error.

Reflections and opportunity on 'the beast side' of Baltimore

By HAYLEY DOTT

Dwight Watkins, a Baltimore native and Johns Hopkins graduate, spoke to students and faculty earlier this school year at the Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium. Watkins lectured about growing up in the east side of Baltimore, or "the beast side" as he calls it, a community dealing with gun violence, drug dealing, racial profiling and the "endangered species of black men," a phrase Watkins has coined to describe the current state of race relations in the United States. His first book, *The Beast Side*, chronicles his life on his side of the "two Baltimores." Watkins uses this distinction to distinguish between the gentrified shops of North Baltimore, which are patronized by a majority-white and prosperous upper class, and the authentic marble steps of East Baltimore, which are populated by "30-year-old pregnant grandmas and dudes in Nikes waving automatic weapons."

Some may call Watkins an entrepreneur, an activist or even the speaker for a marginalized generation, but he believes that he is just a helping hand and an example of the possible escape from the almost inextricable cycle of poverty that plagues East Baltimore — a trap to which he could have fallen victim if he had not been rescued by a combination of things, but espe-

cially books. Watkins writes in *Beast Side*, "Reading has given me the ability to channel that anger into strategic, solution-based thinking, the kind of thinking that will be key in fixing our cities."

Watkins contemplates society's established norms with regard to how it treats women, premature death and even healthy eating. Referring to Tupac Shakur and local sages of wisdom in his community, Watkins' work is refreshing and young but meditative and introspective at the same time, all written with the occasional burst of dry wit that relieves some of the heavy subject matter of his stories.

Watkins spreads his fight for literacy and equality in Baltimore by publishing his story and inspiring others to do the same. With his growing sphere of influence, Watkins writes with hope, "I want to encourage more young and poor minorities to write and raise as much awareness as possible about the ills we all face." By penning an under-heard narrative in such poignant language, he has illuminated the plight of Baltimore and brought positive attention to the city, a grand feat after the negative news media sources broadcasted during the riots this past spring in response to the death of Freddie Gray. In addition to highlighting the individual struggles of Baltimore, Wat-

kins has used his platform to bring to light the issues of police brutality, racial profiling and discrimination that threaten today's African Americans across the country. He warns of the desensitization that America as a country has begun to feel toward the prevalence of deaths of African Americans at the hands of law enforcement and points to the greater and sobering statement that black men are an endangered species.

Watkins' work has been met with immense support and intense admiration from readers, journalists and publishers, nation-wide. His work has been published in *The New York Times*, *Salon*, *NPR*, *The Rolling Stone*, *The Guardian* and more. Watkins was also named *Baltimore Magazine*'s Best Writer of 2015 and was named one of *Baltimore Business Journal*'s top "40 Under 40" to watch, showing not only his role as a writer and activist, but also his ability to make an unprecedented living out of his passion and experience. The wonder of Watkins' stems from his ability to react to his circumstances in a way that is

uncharacteristic and difficult with regard to his upbringing. Surrounded by violence and drugs, he abandoned this trade to help himself and in turn helps others, all while being able to do well financially, in addition to working some other odd jobs as a freelance writer or photographer.

When I had the opportunity to get my copy of *The Beast Side* signed by Watkins, he smiled and said, "I'm really just all about the love, which a lot of people don't get." It was an ambiguous statement, but perfectly captured the heart and passion he pours into his work and activism.

Hayley Dott is a sophomore Writing Seminars major from Baltimore.



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THE B SECTION

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APRIL 21, 2016



Arts & Entertainment

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YOUR WEEKEND APRIL 21-24

Events in Baltimore Tiptoe through the tulips at Sherwood this weekend

Thursday

Maria Gabriela Aldana and Aleks Martray present their film on Nicaraguan indigenous land struggle Red Emma's, 7:30 p.m.

Two MICA students host a showing of their documentary *Bangkukuk* followed by a discussion of their work with the Rama people of Nicaragua, who have lived on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua for thousands of years.

Friday

The Health and Wellness Tour Hits Baltimore The Crown, 9 p.m.

Eze Jackson, Kid DEAD, IMP BEATZ, Anna Notte, iAlive and Vans_Westly in the Blue Room of the Crown for your enjoyment. All of them except for Kid DEAD (Tallahassee) and iAlive (Philadelphia) are local. There will be a cover of \$7.

The World/Inferno Friendship Society Metro Gallery, 8 p.m.

The World/Inferno Friendship Society will be playing with War on Women and [explosion sound]. There is a concurrent release party for The Brewer's Art ChopTank'd Saison. 18+, \$15.

Saturday

Young Visionaries Film Festival Ottobar, 6:30 p.m.

Students from all over the Mid-Atlantic region showcase their films at a film festival hosted by Towson University's media production society. No listed cover or age limit.

Spring Cleaning Flea Market The Windup Space, 12 p.m.

Buy used goods at the Windup Space this Saturday between 12 and 5 p.m. Local stores and artists will be there so go show your support!

Sunday

Sunday Salon with :310N, Tariq Touré and Sunny Cowell Peale Museum, 12 p.m.

Baltimore musical artist :310N, essayist and poet Tariq Touré and artist and lawyer Sunny Cowell will be performing at the Peale Museum, in the first of a series put on in concert with art project Only When It's Dark Enough Can You See the Stars.

By VERONICA REARDON
Your Weekend Columnist

As all of Hopkins knows, except perhaps for a few stray grad students too deep in their research to notice, Spring Fair happened this past weekend. The weather was beautiful, Wild Bill's soda was flowing, Chicken on Stick was purchased and eaten in the yearly ritual, and everyone and their professor could be spotted in the Beer Garden.

Once the haze of late Friday afternoon and Saturday had passed, though, I awoke Sunday morning with a foul-tasting mouth and a guilty conscience. I decided to do something wholesome and outdoors before I sat down to do homework until the wee hours of Monday. Having not worked out for awhile, and having never been to Sherwood Gardens, I decided a run to Sherwood Gardens was in order. I had heard about it freshman year but never got around to see it.

For some reason I always thought it was far away. It turns out it's a 10 minute run, or a 20 minute walk, from where I live on Guilford. Not far at all! Even if you are scared of Baltimore (which, though understandable, is a feeling you should work against) it's a very non-scary walk, even alone. It's through the unreal neighborhood of Guilford. It doesn't feel like Baltimore there, which to me is a little sad. There's not a row house in sight; All the lawns are manicured, and all is thoroughly suburban and normal. The flowers are



MARYLANDSTATER/PUBLIC DOMAIN

Sherwood Gardens, which is a 20 minute walk from Homewood campus, is now in beautiful bloom.

gorgeous, as are the trees, and there are consistently available sidewalks and green spaces to run on all over the place. You can also feel pretty comfortable running shirtless there even if you're female — I've never been catcalled there, actually — which is extremely nice especially if you're like me and you feel like you are about to punch a b*tch the next time you get catcalled trying to cross the damn street.

I knew I was getting close to the park when I started to see parked cars and lots of people walking in the same direction. The park itself was, as promised, full of beautiful tulips and people. All of Baltimore's families, it seemed, had decided that this was the best place to spend a Sunday afternoon. Honestly, I agree. Even if your allergies are horrible, it's worth going to see it; I bet it's beautiful and peaceful at night,

and during the week it's a beautiful place to go do homework off campus. That day, people were playing frisbee and croquet, taking photos, picnicking, wandering around and talking, enjoying the day and each other's company. It is hard at times, living on campus, to remember that we belong to a city of families, a city of people very like us and quite unlike us. It is not far away. It is not unrelated to us. We all share Baltimore.

Sherwood Gardens, while located in an exclusive neighborhood, is inclusive in that it is free and open to all. It used to be part of the estate of A.S. Abell, founder of *The Baltimore Sun*. The garden itself was created in the 1920s by John W. Sherwood, a local conservationist and petroleum pioneer. The Guilford Association now owns it, mean-

ing that it is a privately owned park even though it is open to the public. The garden is planted with around 80,000 tulip bulbs a year, along with other spring flowers. In the summer, the garden is re-planted. Fun fact: some of the plants in the garden date back to the 18th century and were collected from Southern Maryland colonial estates.

The garden is at its best right now. Some of the daffodils are already gone, and the tulips will be gone by early May, so be sure to make it soon. Maybe bring a Frisbee and make some new friends! Maybe bring your homework. Maybe bring your flute, like one guy I saw did, and play while standing on a tree branch. Definitely bring some snacks, as well as Zyrtec if you've got bad allergies and, of course, you should bring an appreciation for the beauty of (man-made)nature.

Now museum now you don't: a tour of B'more

By HANNAH MELTON
For The News-Letter

Museums often get the Brussels sprouts treatment. They're probably good for you, but you're not going to go out of your way to try them unless your mom really makes you. But now that you're in college, you've ventured out into the world yourself. Perhaps you're ready to try once-gross things.

So the next time a friend visits you on campus, try taking him or her to one of Hopkins' many museums. Take advantage of the perks that \$64K tuition brings. They're all free, interesting and the perfect answer to "What now?"

There's a museum to match every need. For the younger high school friend with a short attention span, check out the Archaeology Museum located in Gilman. It's the perfect place to quietly catch up while checking out really cool artifacts, spanning from 3,000 B.C. to 700 A.D. The museum features everything from Latin head stones to Ancient Egyptian art.

For a taste of real Hopkins nerdiness, turn right when entering the museum and find the drawer marked "Haupt Tablets." Pull it out and discover small clay tablets, written in Akkadian, by Hopkins' own Professor Haupt nearly a century ago. Sure,



IRACAZ/CC-BY-SA-3.0

Baltimore's very own museum of arts, conveniently close to campus and waiting to be explored.

he was practicing writing in a little-used script — but he was really just passing notes to other professors. Each text is translated: be sure to read Haupt's happy birthday wish to Gildersleeve. The tablets are cute, dorky and oh-so-Hopkins.

For the more art-inclined guest, take a stroll to the south end of campus and visit the Baltimore Museum of Art. It's a fantastic collection of contemporary and classic art, much of which was donated by local Baltimoreans. On the ground floor is a gallery with lots of recognizable Impressionist pieces as well as a pleasant courtyard that ushers in awesome natural lighting. Tell your visitor you have to take his picture as they sit on one of the benches — they

look so 'candid' and artsy, you'll say. It'll be perfect for his Instagram. Modern art more your style? Head up a few flights to the contemporary section where the abstract installations feel more MOMA-esque. If you're up for a splurge, the restaurant attached to the museum — for a bite. The vegetarian crab cakes are pretty awesome.

Finally, if your guest is Mom and you want to limit her opportunity to ask questions about your new significant other, or the Everest-style mountain of clothing on your floor or how that midterm paper you haven't started is shaping up, take her to the Homewood Museum on the Freshman Quad. The stroll there lets you point out your first-year dorm, the library and the

infamous Beach. Then enjoy a quick turn around the relics from the old estate. ("Isn't that lace nice, Mom?")

In the Green Room, fawn over the display of tea paraphernalia and the delicate, spindly chair legs. Your mother will reminisce on how you once dressed up for high tea with your dolls and reticent younger sibling. Avoid the eye roll and instead point out the neatly cut finger sandwiches and conveniently be struck by an intense craving for grilled cheese like she once made you. Usher her to Carma's and reminisce about your younger days when tomato soup solved everything. Make sure you add in that her soup will always be the tastiest (even if it isn't).

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Chainsmokers headline Spring Fair concert

By ANEEKA RATNAYAKE
Staff Writer

As part of the annual Spring Fair concert, The Chainsmokers performed along with Marian Hill and Shwayze. The outdoor concert was held on the Hopkins campus at the practice field on Friday, April 15. 2,500 tickets were sold for the event.

The Chainsmokers is a duo of DJs from the United States: Andrew Taggart and Alex Pall. Their first chart-topping single “#Selfie” was released in 2014, and their debut EP was released in October of 2015. Two days after their performance at Hopkins, the pair headed to Coachella, an annual music festival held in California.

The March announcement of the performers for the annual concert received mixed responses from the Hopkins community, but many students were happy with the selection.

“I was definitely excited when they announced it was Chainsmokers,” sophomore Gigi Habiby said.

Marian Hill, the first in the lineup to perform, consists of two songwriters from Philadelphia: Jeremy Lloyd and Samantha Gongol. Like The Chainsmokers, the duo is also relatively new, having released



COURTESY OF ERIC CHEN/THE JOHNS HOPKINS PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM
The Chainsmokers, a DJ duo, performed on the practice field at the Spring Fair concert this year.

their first EP in 2013 and having had “One Time” as their first top-forty hit in December of 2015.

Shwayze, an American rapper, performed second out of the three artists. He has been performing for longer than the other two artists, having released his first chart-topping song, “Buzzin’,” in 2008.

The three performers all received an overwhelmingly positive response from the crowd. Most people crowded toward the front of the stage. At some points, the crowd even became a little rough as people tried to push their way closer to the front. Several peo-

ple chose to stay away from the mass near the stage, dancing and singing along to the music on the sidelines.

The performers also interacted with the audience throughout the show.

When The Chainsmokers performed, they often paused to gauge how the crowd was feeling. They did, however, refer to the crowd as “John Hopkins” a few times, which amused most students.

Shwayze at one point asked the crowd whether they preferred his old or new music.

Many students had a very positive reaction to the concert when asked about it afterwards. Freshman Elly Goldstein commented on the performers’ interactions

with the audience.

“Personally, I really enjoyed the concert. I love pretty much all concerts because of the energy and the atmosphere of them, and the crowd was definitely full of people who were enjoying themselves and the music,” Goldstein said. “All the performers were so great when it came to interacting with the audience, which makes any show so much better.”

Freshman Anthony Lewis echoed Goldstein’s positive response.

“As the highlight of the best weekend at Hopkins, the music of the Spring Fair concert left nothing undesired or feeling untouched,” Lewis said.

While many were

Citizen brings pop, punk to the Ottobar

By DUBRAY KINNEY
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Last Thursday, emo pop-punk band Citizen played at the Ottobar in one of the last stops on their six-week tour. They were supported by a bevy of similar bands, including Sorority Noise, Turnover and Milk Teeth.

The audience at this show skewed toward the younger side, which was reflected by the early set times. (It began at 6 p.m. and ended by 11 p.m.) There was a certain level of respect for everyone that maintained the safe-space vibe of the Ottobar.

As for the bands, Citizen formed in 2009 in Michigan. The band is a four-piece featuring lead singer Mat Kerekes,

guitarist Nick Hamm, drummer Jake Duhaime, guitarist Ryland Oehlers and bassist Eric Hamm. The band released their debut album, *Youth*, in 2013 after they were signed to acclaimed punk label Run for Cover Records. The band released their sophomore effort *Everybody Is Going to Heaven* in 2015, and this tour was partially in support of that.

The Ottobar was most packed when Citizen took the stage, and the band reciprocated the energy by tearing through song after song. Anyone who attended the show can attest to the fact that Citizen represents the more aggressive side of both the pop-punk and emo genres. They have more in

SEE CITIZEN, PAGE B5



CHLOE MURO/CC BY ND 2.0
Mat Kerekes, singer of the band Citizen, performed at the Ottobar.

D.C. poetry festival seeks to enact change

By MIA CAPOBIANCO
Your Weekend Editor

The Split This Rock Poetry Festival took place for the fifth time over the weekend from Thursday, April 14 to Sunday, April 17 in Washington, D.C. The festival, which has been held at the nation’s capital every other year since 2008, centers around poetry of provocation and witness.

Its name is taken from a poem by Langston Hughes entitled “Big Buddy,” which contains the lines “Don’t you hear this hammer ring? / I’m gonna split this rock / And split it wide! / When I split this rock, / Stand by my side.”

Drawing from the legacy of Hughes and other socially engaged poets, Split This Rock aims to celebrate and teach the ways in which poetry can bring attention to issues of social importance and, in turn, enact change. This year’s festival included workshops, readings, discussion panels and special events.

Busboys and Poets, a restaurant, bookstore and community gathering space (similar to Red Emma’s), hosted open mic events on Thursday and Friday evening. The venue also co-hosted a party on Saturday night with multiracial, multi-genre spoken word group The Dark Noise Collective.

Other special events included a flash-mob-style public poetry reading in the streets of D.C. Friday morning. Participants broke

into small groups and spread throughout the city, reciting poems of welcome and compassion to passersby. Those who participated were invited to read their own poetry or work by poets they admire. The public event was both a literal and symbolic stand against hate speech and exclusion, including but not limited to the xenophobic and Islamophobic rhetoric taken up by politicians.

Busboys and Poets set up a pop-up café to sell coffee and snacks on Saturday morning. Also there was a Social Justice Book Fair on Saturday, which lasted from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. It featured an array of socially engaged writers, publishers, magazines and other media-producers.

Well-known local publications such as *The Baltimore Review* were represented alongside national favorites like *POETRY Magazine*. Lesser-known publications and presses were also well-represented at the fair. Take, for example, D.C.’s Flying Guillotine Press, which publishes limited-edition handmade books of poetry.

In addition to the large, interactive events, there was at least one featured reading and book signing each day. The readings, which were also free and open to the public, highlighted accomplished, engaged poets. One member of the award

SEE POETRY, PAGE B5

Beirut play against typical indie sensibilities

By JENNIFER BAIK
For *The News-Letter*

Not your typical indie band, Beirut mixes heady blends of lush, brass melodies with electronic and acoustic sensibilities. Drawing from Balkan-inspired folk and postmodern pop, their sound has yet to be replicated by anyone in the indie scene.

It had been three years since the band’s last tour, and Beirut’s cult following seemed to have followed them all the way to Baltimore. While the 1,500-capacity venue did not sell out, the space was completely packed by showtime.

Singer and frontman Zach Condon stood front and center surrounded by a ukulele, flugelhorn and Moog synthesizer within arm’s reach as he skillfully switched between instruments mid-song. After opening with the beloved and upbeat “Scenic World” and transitioning to “Pacheco” (a song off their latest album), the band paused for technical difficulties. Condon spent an agonizingly silent few minutes adjusting his mic before chuckling to himself.

“We lost our uke mic so we’re kicking it old school,” he said.

Alone with only a double mic stand and his ukulele, Condon began the opening of “Elephant Gun,” and the crowd went wild. Aaron Arntz slowly joined in on accordion as Ben Lanz and Kyle Resnick joined in on trombone and trumpet,

respectively. Bassist Paul Collins soon followed suit. Drummer Nick Petree came last, bringing the song and the audience to a crescendo.

Despite darker songs such as “The Akara,” “The Rip Tide” and “The Gulag Orkestar,” Beirut’s polka-inspired sound kept everyone on their feet, drawing it along like the tide. The biggest cheers came when Lanz and Resnick’s sweeping brass harmonies joined Condon’s flugelhorn to fill the room with an unforgettable atmospheric quality.

The entire set list was clearly thoughtfully selected. Their latest album, *No No No*, was released in September 2015.

While overall it does not live up to the cinematic world sound of Beirut’s older discography, the new ones included in the set list (“Perth,” “Pacheco,” “No No No” and “So Allowed,” to name a few) merged seamlessly with the rest of the set and balanced out the grand backdrops of songs like “The Shrew.”

Typically a band of few words, the various technical difficulties that plagued the first third of the set led to a series of awkwardly funny jokes. While Condon was fiddling with his mic yet again, Lanz jumped in to comment on the band’s pre-show conversation.

“We had a conversation before going on stage

about our first concerts that we weren’t dragged to, you know? Our manager won with Bananarama,” he said.

After crooning lyrics like “In a city where nobody hears / A bird’s call fine fine winter’s here again” and almost wailing the chorus, “He’s the only one who knows the words” to “The Peacock,” a heavier song, Condon immediately lifted the mood.

“That’s an old Mexican drinking song,” he said before he drank a huge swig of water.

“Nantes” was the surprise song of the evening. While already a slower, more contemplative song, it was stripped

SEE BEIRUT, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF JENNIFER BAIK
Balkan-folk-inspired indie rock band Beirut played a strong set at the Ottobar this past weekend.

The Jungle Book: a refreshing Disney reboot



Tim Freborg
Flashframe Film
Reviews

It's no secret that Disney's recent trend of remaking some of its classic animated films into more mature, live-action editions has yielded, at best, mixed results. From the disastrous *Maleficent* to the passable, but still underwhelming *Cinderella*, this critic found himself wishing, more than once, that the studio would just leave "well enough" alone and let their legendary franchises stand untarnished. After all, there's no reason to drag strong licenses through the mud just for the sake of a quick nostalgic cash-in.

That being said, I recently found myself quite thankful that I am not in any way involved with the production teams at Disney because, whatever fears I had in the past, Disney has finally hit the mark with its most recent foray *The Jungle Book*.

Directed by Jon Favreau (*Elf*, *Iron Man*), *The Jungle Book* is an extensive remake of the classic Disney animated film of the same name, inspired by the works of Rudyard Kipling. As the original film has established itself as a media icon of sorts, the task of remaking it seems quite a challenge. Stray too far from the source and one risks alienating long-time fans; stay too close, however, and one raises the question of why a remake is necessary at all. It's a delicate balance, made all the more complex by our modern market's nigh-unquenchable thirst for darker, more mature cinematic themes. That being said, it gives me no small pleasure to report that the film strikes that balance perfectly.

The film focuses on the adventures of a human boy named Mowgli (Neel Sethi), who has spent his life living among the jungle's animals. Entrusted to the care of a pack of wolves by the panther Bagheera (Ben Kingsley), the boy lives among the pack as best he can. Due to his occasional slips into human-like practices, he sometimes finds himself at odds with the animals.

His peaceful life is not to last, however, as the mighty tiger Shere Khan (Idris Elba) issues an ultimatum: One day, he vows, he will slaughter Mowgli and anyone who attempts to stop him. Fearing for the lives with his family and friends, Mowgli decides to leave the jungle with Bagheera, attempting to seek refuge with his own kind. The jungle, however, is not



PAUL SHERWOOD/CC-BY-2.0
Bill Murray voices a sloth bear named Baloo who saves Mowgli's life and becomes one of his closest friends.

so easily cast aside and soon Mowgli finds himself embroiled in a number of adventures that lie within.

At its core, the film really does come across as just a simple retelling of its source material. And, in truth, it is. As far as its overall plot is concerned, *The Jungle Book*'s plot is the same fundamental story as it has been for decades. There are no *Maleficent*-style modifications to be found.

In fact, in certain places, the film relies so heavily on the source material that it is actually a bit jarring and cumbersome. For example, there are two musical callbacks to the original film with, while heavy on nostalgia, don't quite feel right in this version.

That's not to say the film is redundant. In fact, many of the small details that are added throughout the story will be quite welcome to returning fans. However, for those looking for something fresh and new out of this retelling, the story is not where you'll find it.

Where the film is able to absolutely shine, however, is in its world-building and acting. The setting of *The Jungle Book* is one of the most gorgeously rendered worlds in recent memory, at once vast and wondrous. It is also mysterious and even frightening at times.

There is also a constant sense of foreboding in the atmosphere. Even as Mowgli reflects on his love of the jungle and his desire to stay, the film never fails to remind us of the number of hazards and dangers lurking behind every tree.

Yet even amid the danger, there's room for thrills, excitement and fun with a cast of characters as lovable as they ever were. Idris Elba's performance as Shere Khan is deliciously sinister in all the right ways. The malicious draws and snarls in his voice blend seamlessly with the beast's growl, making for a villain audiences will love to dread.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, Bill Murray as the voice of the iconic bear Baloo is something I never knew I wanted to see, but find myself all the richer for having witnessed. And finally, the

ever-lovable, ever-quirky Christopher Walken has a role in this film that I absolutely refuse to spoil. Suffice to say, it may be the best role that he has had in years.

While definitely not anything revolutionary, *The Jungle Book* does exactly what it is supposed to: It recreates the world and charm of its source while simultaneously injecting just enough freshness to keep it from getting stale.

I can safely say that *The Jungle Book* is, if nothing else, a very fun film to see and well worth the attention of not just children or nostalgic fans but anyone looking for a fun afternoon adventure. Truly, in a time of remakes, reshapes and reimaginings, it's refreshing to see a film offer so much more than the simple bare necessities.

Overall Rating: 8/10

Chainsmokers show was energetic, rowdy

CHAINSMOKERS, FROM B3 pleased with the performances, others noted that they would have liked to see more from the artists.

"The concert was a lot of fun and very well-organized. All the artists did a good job playing the songs people really wanted to hear, but I think that there was a general feeling of disappointment that The Chainsmokers didn't stick around for an encore," freshman Stephen Brao said.

Despite the lack of an encore, many stayed behind for a photo with The Chainsmokers. However, due to their scheduled performance at Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio, Calif., they had to leave almost immediately. Students complained about the rowdy crowd.

"I got there early to get a good spot in the crowd by the stage, but eventually had to leave due to the overwhelming amount of pushing and to get water. Mar-

ian Hill and Shwayze were entertaining, but The Chainsmokers definitely stole the show. I had a great time with friends, but not sure if it was worth \$30," sophomore Kellie Hunn said.

Junior Raegan Hensley commented on her own experiences.

"I got knocked down onto the ground and a guy stepped on my arm, but then I went to the back and it was so much better and a lot more fun," she said.

Moreover, some students added that they setup of the stage made it difficult to see the artists.

"It was hard to see The Chainsmokers because we were so much lower than them, hence I couldn't see over their DJ booth," sophomore Rachel Mueller said.

Even those who were not able to attend still found ways to enjoy the concert.

"It sounded good from the UTL," junior Alyssa Wenzel said.

Innovative album releases are spectacles for fans

By MARCIA ZIMMERMAN
Staff Writer

Artists used to drop albums the same way every time: They would announce a new album in the works, promote it and release it on a set date. Yet, since album releases at their essence are all about marketing and lining up as many people as possible to buy the album, artists and their labels have been getting more and more creative in terms of how they present and release new work.

Most recently, Kanye West stirred up significant controversy surrounding his album, *TLOP*, or *The Life of Pablo*. He teased the album on social media, not even releasing the final name of the album — which was titled *So Help Me God*, then *SWISH*, then *Waves* — until days before his Yeezy Season 3 fashion show and album release party at Madison Square Garden in mid-February. Anyone who could guess the meaning of the album's acronym would win free tickets and a pair of custom Yeezy shoes.

The event was live-streamed on Tidal, Jay Z's struggling music streaming service, and at movie theaters around the world. When the feed was not crashing, viewers could witness the whole production — Kanye playing the album track-by-track, models standing perfectly still on stage and Kanye's announcement that he is working on a video game about his late mother traveling to heaven called *Only One*.

This release of *TLOP* was chaotic — much like the album, some would say — since there was no finished record to purchase after the event. The album was still in production. Around this time, Kanye took to Twitter to begot more controversy, including defending lyrics about how he made Taylor Swift famous. He was also recorded ranting about

SNL and Swift.

According to writer Gerrick Kennedy of the *Los Angeles Times*, more than 500,000 people illegally downloaded versions of the album since it would not be for sale on any platform other than Tidal. Despite this (or maybe even because of it), after two months, *TLOP* debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 chart for the week of April 11.

While Kanye's album entered the music scene with a bang, Beyoncé's 2013 self-titled album *Beyoncé* entered almost entirely in silence. Fans were aware that she was working on an album, but since they expected it to drop in 2014, fans did not anticipate any release for quite some time. Without a single press release, announcement or promotional tweet, Beyoncé's album went live on iTunes on December 13, 2013.

It was accompanied by a visual album with cinema-quality videos for each track. Fans quickly took to social media, clamoring to post music clips or album art in attempts to prove that they had discovered it first. The album went on to become the fastest-selling album in iTunes history, both in the United States and around the world, as well as 2013's largest debut sales week for a female artist, according to *People*.

These two iconic releases were preceded by a multitude of innovative and unconventional album releases. Beyoncé, as you may not have known, followed in the footsteps of David Bowie, who released his 24th studio album *Where Are We Now?* on his birthday in January 2013 with no prior mention or promotion.

Beck released his

2012 album, *Song Reader*, through a hardcover portfolio that contained only the sheet music for his 20 songs — the listeners would have to play the music themselves to hear it.

In 2007, Radiohead announced their album *In Rainbows* 10 days before releasing it digitally through their own website via a "pay-what-you-want" model. Fans were given the option of buying the albums for free. Yet, during that period, the album made more money than their 2003 album, *Hail to the Thief*.

The Flaming Lips released a compilation of love songs in 2013 on a USB drive, which was found

inside an anatomically correct chocolate human heart contained in a box featuring signatures from band members Wayne Coyne and Steven Drozd. Guns N' Roses had fans waiting for four years for their follow-up album following *Appetite for Destruction* and released the tracks on two albums in 1991. Fans lined up outside of music stores at midnight on the release date.

U2 has teamed up with Apple on more than one occasion — first for a commercial featuring the single "Vertigo," then for limited edition iPods with U2's entire discography and finally for the band's surprise release of *Songs of Innocence* in 2014, which was d o w n -

loaded onto Apple user's devices at no cost.

Unconventional album releases reflect a wider trend of nuanced marketing techniques to get fans and consumers to involve themselves with brands. Marketing teams and artists get people to solve puzzles, share stories and participate in the marketing process in ways they never have before. Fans are motivated to share albums with friends and on social media. When knowledge of albums is communicated with a word-of-mouth model, fans get to be the trendsetters, the ones who discovered the content first. In doing so they also associate themselves with the brand or artist.

In addition, some artists feel that by controlling the release process, they can say something about their art and connect more personally with their fans.

"I didn't want to release my music the way I've done it [before]," Beyoncé said to Ella Alexander of *Vogue*. "I am bored with that. I feel like I am able to speak directly to my fans. There's so much that gets between the music, the artist and the fans. I felt like I didn't want anybody to give the message when my record is coming out. I just want this to come out when it's ready and from me to my fans."



NAT CH VILLA/CC-BY-2.0
The album *Beyoncé* debuted at number one.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Poetry Festival provides space for change



COURTESY OF MIA CAPOBIANCO

The Split This Rock Festival took place in D.C. over the weekend.

POETRY, FROM B3

winning D.C. Youth Slam Team performed at each reading.

Saturday afternoon's featured readers included Dawn Lundy Martin, who has penned three books of poetry as well as three chapbooks. Her latest collection, *Life in a Box is a Pretty Life*, was published by Nightboat Books in 2015.

In addition to being a poet and professor at the University of Pittsburgh, Martin is part of a performance group and an art collective. The art collective, HOWDOYOUSAYYAM-INAFRICAN?, garnered attention in the art world when members withdrew their work from the 2014 Whitney Biennial, citing the museum's prejudiced curatorial practices.

Martin is also working on a memoir, part of which appeared in *The New Yorker* as the essay "The Long Road to Angela Davis's Library." Martin is just one example of the incredibly accomplished, engaging readers who rounded out last weekend's lineup of 20 poets, which also included five members from the Slam Team.

To encourage community building, networking among poets and exploration of more specialized topics, there were small-group breakout sessions on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Festival attendees chose from a wide variety of workshops, discussions, readings and talks.

Small-group sessions included Contemporary South African Spoken

Word, Translation Ethics in the Digital World and Unlanguaging White Supremacy: Toward a Solidarity Poetics Practice. In total, festival attendees had about 10 titles to choose from for each hour-and-a-half-long session.

Several Hopkins students from Dora Malech's Poetry and Social Justice course attended the festival. In the class, part of the Writing Seminars department, students read, write and discuss poetry of social and political engagement. Students also work with high-school-aged writers from the Writers in Baltimore Schools program.

Junior Ruth Marie Landry, a member of Malech's class, commented on a workshop she attended on Friday titled "The Space to Create: Designing Successful Poetry Workshops for Communities."

"One of the workshops I went to was with Sarah Kay, who got pretty famous after she preformed her poetry at a Ted Talk a few years ago. The workshop was really great. It was about conducting workshops, and we talked about how to scaffold lessons so students don't get overwhelmed," Landry wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Helena Chung, another Writing Seminars junior and one of Hopkins' most widely published undergraduates, attended several days of

the festival.

"I went on Thursday because I had a friend speaking at the conference then about eco-feminist poetry, and it really feels good to go out and support poetry that I believe in... poetry that I feel like we don't necessarily get to read in class," Chung wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

She also spoke about the experience of listening to live readings by poets who have influenced her.

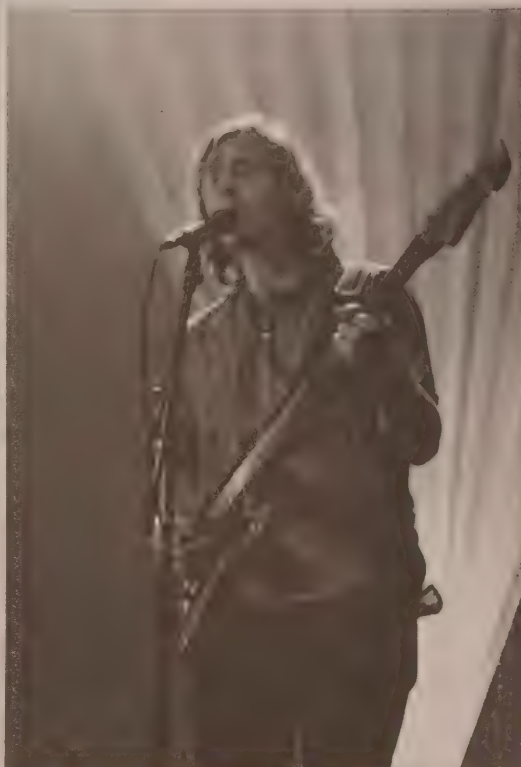
"I loved being able to meet poets who have really inspired me and influenced me in a lot of ways, and to hear them read live was really an incredible/unforgettable experience!" she wrote.

Although the Split This Rock Poetry Festival only occurs every two years, the organization is active year-round, holding events and advocating for poets' engagement with contemporary social concerns.

Split This Rock co-sponsors a monthly reading series called Sunday Kind of Love at Busboys and Poets. The event features two established or up-and-coming poets followed by open mic readings. "Sunday Kind of Love" takes place every third Saturday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. and has a \$5 admission cost.

Split This Rock also has youth programming, several poetry competitions and a Poem of the Week series. Those interested in learning more about Split This Rock and their programming should visit www.split-thisrock.org.

Beirut plays all their hits at the Ottobar



COURTESY OF JENNIFER BAIK

Beirut's Baltimore stop comes off the heels of their latest release.

BEIRUT, FROM B3

soothing yet operatic voice to engulf the audience with his words.

"And in a year, a year or so / this will slip into the sea / Well it's been a long time, long time now / since I've seen you smile," he sang in "Nantes."

The evening ended with a four-part, powerhouse encore of "Cocek," "The Gulag Orkestar," "In the Mausoleum" and "The Flying Club Cup." An instrumental cover of "Cocek" was a crowd-pleaser and showcased the individual talents of each band member.

With energetic solos

from Lanz, Resnick and Arntz, the song completely revitalized the energy in the room, ultimately leaving the crowd cheering for a long time, hoping for another encore.

Beirut, a band that does not rely on slick guitar riffs or acrobatic drummers, managed to captivate the audience with their unique and unmistakable sound. After a three-year hiatus, Beirut has come back stronger than ever. Nine years after the band's formation, Condon is still armed with his tiny ukelele, charming audiences around the globe.

Pop punk reigns at the Ottobar

CITIZEN, FROM B3

common with Balance and Composure than, say, other stalwarts of emo's past like Cap'n Jazz or American Football.

The audience was most energetic during Citizen's performance, with a few mosh pits starting here or there in the center of the crowd. For the most part though, people thrashed their heads as Citizen played their hits.

Preceding Citizen was Turnover, a band from Virginia Beach which consists of vocalist Austin Getz, guitarist Eric Soucy, bassist Danny Dempsey and drummer Casey Getz. The band faced a change in sound after the release of their second album, *Peripheral Vision*. Although they stayed true to their pop-punk roots, the band embraced a more shoegaze or dream-pop-orientated sound, creating a colorful mix that is rarely seen.

The performance emulated the guitar work of bands like Real Estate or Craft Spells. Their set garnered a number of cheers but seemed to have less energy than a few of the other bands that played, although that might just have been a result of the more abstract sound the band was going for.

Sorority Noise had the second-best response of the night. The group boasts a four-man lineup (vocalist/guitarist Cameron Boucher, bassist/vocalist Ryan McKenna, guitarist/vocalist Adam Ackerman and drum-

mer Charlie Singer) and a strong seven-release back catalog. The band was formed by members of two bands, Old Gray and Prawn, in Connecticut in 2013, although they currently represent Philadelphia. So far they have had a meteoric rise to success, including two studio albums, *Forgettable* and *Joy, Departed*, a split with cult-punk stars Radiator Hospital and several other releases.

The band's brand of emo pop-punk was well-received by the audience. The cheering began once the band got on stage and didn't end until five minutes after it left the stage.

A rather intimate moment occurred prior to the final two songs they played. As a silence fell over the crowd, Boucher thanked everyone for coming out to support them but in a special way. He briefly spoke about his history of manic depression and his difficulty leaving home to play a show. He thanked any crowd member who was going through a tough time fighting suicidal urges, and to a round of applause and cheers, he thanked everyone for coming out.

As for the band's performance, the manner in which they progressed

from song to song was quite intriguing. Although its performance was high-energy with the half-singing, half-screaming that has been embraced by the emo genre, the band utilized quiet interludes between each song to seamlessly transition from one song to another.

Finally, the first opener was British band Milk Teeth. The band formed in Gloucestershire in 2013 and consists of vocalist/

bassist Becky Blomfield, guitarist Chris Webb, drummer Oli Holbrook and guitarist Billy Hutton. After releasing two EPs, one in 2013 and another in 2015, the

band released their first full-length effort, *Vile Child*, this past January.

Milk Teeth's punk sound would've gone over better had the crowd been larger. As the opening band, they had to contend with the lowest attendance of any of the bands that performed. However, the band members did the best they could, and even though attempts to get the venue moving were largely for naught, Milk Teeth's fun styling of the punk genre went over well with those who attended.

Citizen's tour reached Baltimore during its second half, but none of the bands seemed burned out, and it was fun for all who attended.

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Grave Humor

By Stephanie Herrera



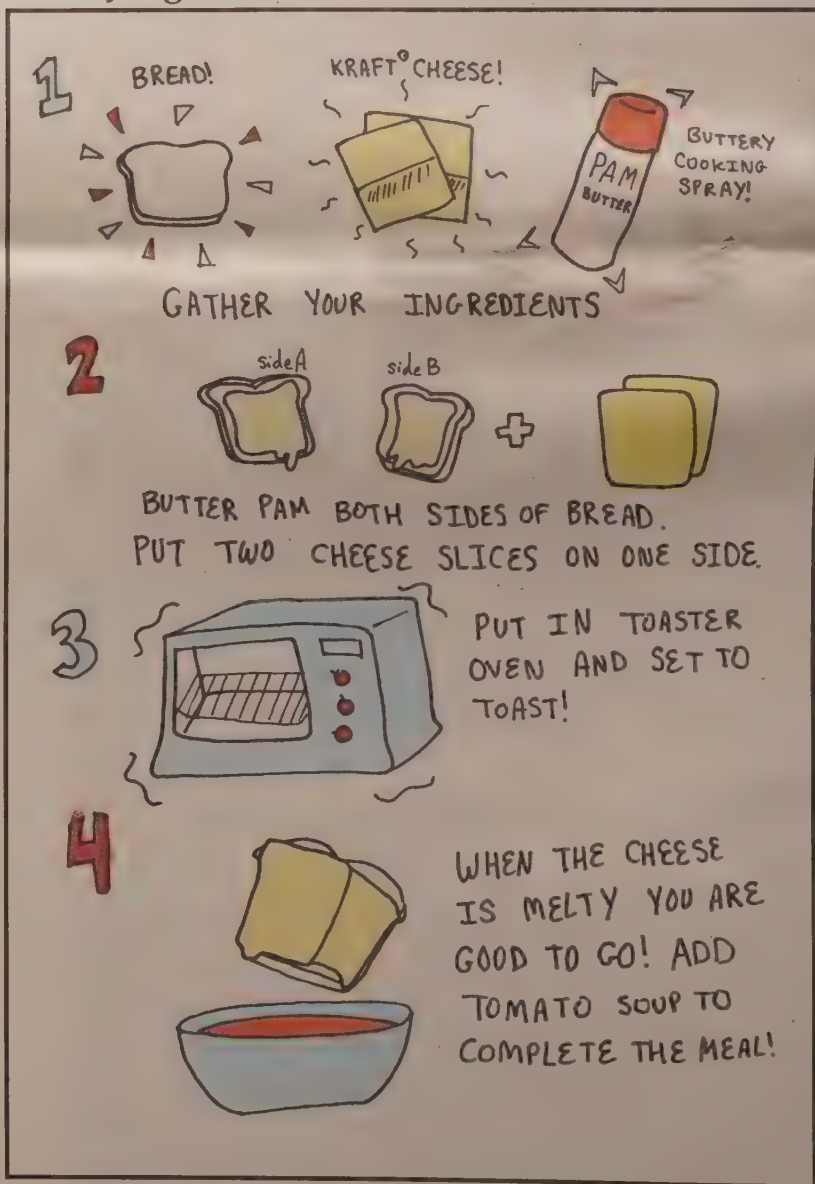
Awkward Responses to Common Small-talk Topics: THE WEATHER

By Erica Schwarz



Don't Judge Me: Grilled Cheese Edition

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Curiosity can prompt dangerous behavior

By **SABRINA CHEN**
Staff Writer

A recent study done by University of Wisconsin researchers suggests that our curiosity can lead us toward painful or unpleasant situations. The study explains that even if we are able to avoid these situations completely, curiosity can serve as a powerful motivator to lead us to make otherwise unjustified decisions.

“Just as curiosity drove Pandora to open the box despite being warned of its pernicious contents, curiosity can lure humans — like you and me — to seek information with predictably ominous consequences,” Bowen Ruan, one of the study’s authors, said in a press release.

Ruan said that he had the idea for his study after looking over previous research that had shown that curiosity led people to seek miserable experiences. Examples of these unpleasant situations could include watching horrible scenes in a movie or exploring an area with

dangerous terrain. Ruan then went on to predict that the curiosity causing people to act in these ways could be due to an inclination to resolve uncertainties without considering harm.

Ruan, along with co-author Christopher Hsee of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, tested this hypothesis by studying 54 college students in a shock study. The 54 volunteers were invited into a lab and shown electric-shock pens. The volunteers were told that these pens were left over from a previous experiment. In addition, the researchers told the volunteers that they were allowed to try out the pens and click them as they waited for the “actual” study to begin.

The participants were split into two groups. For one group, the pens were color-coded as red and green — red meaning that the pen would administer a shock and green meaning that the pen had no shock potential. Thus, all

SEE *CURIOSITY*, PAGE B8



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The likelihood of clicking on shock pens is affected by curiosity.

Eating fresh produce can lead to a longer life

By **REGINA PALATINI**
Senior Staff Writer

While few people claim that fresh fruit and vegetables are unhealthy, a recent study shows that fresh produce might carry long-term health benefits in addition to its short-term nutritional value.

Earlier this month, researchers at the University of Oxford and the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences published a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* that shows people who consume fresh fruit on most days of the week are at a lower risk of stroke and heart attack than people who rarely eat fresh fruit. This study was based on data from 500,000 adults across China.

“The association between fruit consumption and cardiovascular risk seems to be stronger in China. Fruit in China is almost exclusively consumed raw, whereas much of the fruit in high-income countries is processed,” Huaidong Du, an author of the study, said.

This was not the first experiment to establish a link between the consumption of fresh produce and long-term health improvements.

A 2014 study in the British Medical Journal’s *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* found that eating five daily portions of fruit and vegetables is associated with a lower risk of death from any cause. The researchers discovered that this trend was limited to around five servings of fresh fruit and vegetables per day.

Another study published in the same journal found similar results, with the consumption of



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Numerous studies reveal a link between the consumption of fresh produce and long-term health benefits.

fresh vegetables providing the strongest protective effect. Eating salad was found to have a significantly higher effect on subjects’ health than the consumption of fresh fruit, but the effect of consuming fruit was still found to be significant.

“We all know that eating fruit and vegetables is healthy, but the size of the effect is staggering. Vegetables have a larger effect than fruit, but fruit still makes a big difference,” Oyinlola Oyebode, lead author of the study, said.

This study did not find any evidence of significant benefits from drinking fruit juice, with frozen and canned fruit actually increasing the risk of death.

“Most canned fruit contains high sugar levels and cheaper varieties are packed in syrup rather than fruit juice,” Oyebode said.

These studies point to the importance of eating more fresh produce, something that Michael Pollan, nutrition journalist and professor of journalism at UC Berkeley,

has long been advocating for.

Pollan outlines three tips to healthier eating. The first of Pollan’s rules is to eat food. At first, one may think this rule is simple and clear to everyone, but what Pollan means specifically is to eat “real” food. Real food refers to food that is unprocessed and doesn’t come from a factory. In fact, it is often difficult to find food that passes this “unprocessed” test.

Pollan’s second rule is to make sure you don’t eat too much. Pollan noted in his study that we are programmed to eat as much as we can when food is plentiful because we don’t know when our next meal will be available. As intelligent humans, we have mostly overcome this primal behavior; however, it can sneak back from time to time. Pollan recom-

mends that we become more mindful of what we are eating and to include as many healthy choices as possible. This way, when we overeat, at least we are eating healthy, nutritious food.

Pollan’s last rule is that we must eat mostly plants. This is commonly regarded as the most difficult of the three rules.

Pollan doesn’t recommend that we bury our faces in a bowl of lettuce until it’s empty — what he is trying to get across to us is that we can benefit from eating more plant-based foods like fruits, vegetables and whole grains. According to Pollan, a plant-based diet is the best diet because plant foods are the richest sources of vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals, which contain disease-fighting properties.

Scientists regenerate esophageal tissue

By **TONY WU**
Senior Staff Writer

Each year, patients around the world have to wait for tissue and organ donors, creating a bottleneck in the health care system. Increasingly, scientists have looked for artificial organs or regeneration techniques to alleviate this problem.

Seven years ago, a team of researchers took a step toward regenerating human tissues by implanting a metal stent and regenerative tissue matrix into the esophagus of a 24-year-old patient. Now, researchers report that seven years after the operation and four years

after the stents were removed, the patient has no difficulty with swallowing and eating.

The patient was admitted to the hospital as a result of a serious infection from a disrupted esophagus. The abscess destroyed the esophageal segment of the esophagus and the wound was too big for repair. The patient then gave consent for regenerative therapy and the local institutional review board approved the procedure due to clinical necessity. In addition, the procedure only used items that are already FDA-approved.

Physicians first placed

SEE *ESOPHAGUS*, PAGE B8



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Researchers have found a way to regenerate esophagus tissue.

CDC reports rise in deaths from drug overdose

By **JOAN YEA**
Senior Staff Writer

Deaths resulting from drug overdose have escalated by 137 percent from 2000 to 2014 in the United States, according to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The number of drug-related deaths in 2014 was greater than any reported in past years, with more than three out of five drug overdose mortalities involving the use of opioids such as prescription opioids and heroin.

In response to this epidemic of drug abuse, and specifically the abuse of opioids, the CDC has urged the implementation of safer opioid prescription practices. But some physicians have argued that improving treatments for opioid addiction is just as pressing and critical an issue as preventing opioid abuse in the efforts to combat this widespread problem.

For patients rehabilitating from opiate addiction, doctors often prescribe methadone, a synthetic opioid, to reduce the patients’ physical drug cravings and to prevent traumatic withdrawal symptoms. By occupying the recep-

tors in the brain that are stimulated by other opioids, methadone enables a majority of patients to gradually ease away from opiate addiction. Yet, there remain legitimate, evidence-based concerns that the patients then become addicted to methadone instead.

In the search for alternatives to opioid-maintenance regimens such as methadone, antagonist drugs such as naltrexone (Vivitrol) have been suggested in a limited number of studies to be more efficacious than methadone. Extended-release naltrexone in particular has become an increasingly accepted treatment regimen for patients seeking a relapse-prevention drug due to its relatively low required dosage. Unlike other opiate dependence medications such as methadone, extended-release naltrexone, when it is injected requires monthly rather than daily dosing.

To investigate whether extended-release naltrexone is effective at preventing opioid relapse, researchers at the Center for Studies of Addiction at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania conducted a randomized trial among

adult criminal justice offenders who were recovering from opioid dependence. As described in the study, which was published last month in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the investigation enrolled ex-heroin users who expressed a desire to undergo opioid-free treatment.

At the time of randomization, all of the participants were confirmed to be opioid-free based on negative urine toxicological screening. Moreover, the participants had to be free of any other drug or alcohol dependence necessitating care that would conflict with participation in the trial. Once the randomization of the participants was complete, a total of 153 individuals had been assigned to the extended-release naltrexone group and a total of 155 participants to the usual treatment group.

Over the course of 24 weeks, the 153 participants in the extended-release naltrexone group were administered naltrexone once every four weeks during medical management visits, during which the participants also received counseling sessions and referrals for community treatment programs. The 155 test subjects of the

usual treatment group, however, were only given counseling sessions and recommendations for community programs.

To monitor the incidence of opioid relapse in both groups, the researchers also followed up with the trial participants every two weeks during the 24-week treatment period and afterwards assessed the test subjects’ conditions at weeks 27, 53 and 78. Urine toxicological screenings for opioid use were carried out during these visits. In addition, the investigators asked the participants to report the consumption of opioid, cocaine, alcohol or other drugs during the two-week period.

The self-reported information, as the investigators noted, was correlated with the rates of opioid relapse as evidenced by the toxicological screenings. During the 24-week treatment phase, the individuals who were taking extended-release naltrexone took a longer median time to relapse (10.5 weeks) than did the participants who received only the usual treatment (five weeks). The extended-release naltrexone group also demonstrated a lower rate of relapse (43

SEE *OVERDOSE*, PAGE B8

Mental health effects linked to marijuana

Scientists develop new HIV diagnostic device

Manish Paranjpe
Guest Columnist

Marijuana has been in the spotlight recently for its alleged medicinal properties, prompting 23 states and the District of Columbia to legalize medical cannabis. As medical marijuana becomes increasingly accepted as a viable alternative to traditional therapies, the recreational value of the drug is also increasing.

A 2015 study published in *JAMA Psychiatry* found a two-fold increase in marijuana use among adults in the United States over the past 10 years. However, before we as a society start accepting the recreational value of marijuana, it is important to understand its risks.

Several recent studies have linked prolonged marijuana, or cannabis, use to adverse health effects such as memory loss, impaired immune response, heart failure and decreased sperm count and motility, according to the Centers for Disease Control. However, one of the most well studied associations is that of cannabis use and psychiatric conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and psychosis. According to a new study published in *BMJ Open*, cannabis use can lead to a longer road to recovery for psychiatric patients.

The study, led by researchers at King's College London Institute of Psychiatry and Biomedical Research Centre Nucleus, found that psychiatric patients with a history of cannabis use experienced more frequent voluntary and forced hospital visits and longer hospital stays overall.

Corresponding author, Rashmi Patel used data mining to search electronic medical records of 2,026 patients who have been admitted to the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust hospital system and treated for a first episode of psychosis with early intervention services. By tracking who patients had a history of cannabis use at the time of acceptance, the researchers were able to determine the effect of cannabis on psychiatric health.

Patel and his team found that 46.3 percent of patients self-reported cannabis use within a month of starting early intervention treatment. The use of cannabis was associated with a 50 percent higher frequency of in-patient hospital stays in the five years following an initial visit. Cannabis users averaged 1.8 hospital admissions over five years while non-users averaged just 1.2 visits in the same period.

The use of cannabis was also associated with a 55 percent higher likelihood of compulsory

detention under the English Mental Health Act, a 1983 ruling which allows mental health patients to be admitted to psychiatric facilities either for their own health or the for the safety of those around them.

Patel's results are part of a growing body of evidence establishing the relationship between cannabis use and the risk of developing mental health conditions. A 2011 Australian study that followed 1,600 school age students found that students that used marijuana were five times as likely to be diagnosed with depression compared to those who did not.

Similar associations have been reported for schizophrenia: A Swedish study of 50,000 military draftees showed that the use of marijuana was associated with a 30 percent greater risk of developing schizophrenia. For both of these studies, the participants were deemed normal at the start of the study period; Any diagnosis of depression or schizophrenia was made during the course of the study.

The use of marijuana is particularly prevalent in young people, a concerning trend when one considers that adolescence is a critical period for brain development. During this time, the brain experiences widespread neuronal pruning, or, the removal of some of the brain's tangled jumble of neurons in order to make them work more effectively. As a result, any psychoactive substance such as marijuana that affects neuronal pruning can have long-term cognitive and psychological effects. A 2011 Australian School Students' Alcohol and Drug Survey found that 29.2 percent of 17 year olds reported using marijuana, compared to just 3.4 percent of 12 year olds. Patel found in his study that the group most likely to report using the drug was 16-25 year old males.

A 2014 CNN poll found 55 percent of Americans support legalization of marijuana, compared to just 19 percent in 1991. But as marijuana legalization debate continues, it is important to consider the health risks of the drug. Ryan Vandrey, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Johns Hopkins, cautions the legalization of medical marijuana.

"It's not just smoked cannabis being sold. In medical dispensaries there's cannabis ice cream, candy bars, butter," Vandrey said in an interview with *The Hub*. "My concern is that from a public health standpoint, if you have a candy bar with 100 milligrams of THC in it, that seems a recipe for a seven-year-old kid getting ahold of it and having a very, very bad time."

By FERNANDO VICENTE
For *The News-Letter*

All too often, brilliant research ideas and applications are left in lab due to impediments such as the high cost of the reagents, low turnaround times, the requirement of sophisticated technical skills, the need for a controlled environment and the difficulty of obtaining FDA approval for public use of the product.

However, the field of microfluidics is paving a viable road to turn research ideas into commercial products. The technology dates back to the era when engineers designed precise inkjets in printers for optimal resolutions. It has since grown and expanded across fields as a detection mechanism for rapid screening and simultaneous analysis of biological or chemical targets.

Through modeling extremely thin fluid channels, microfluidics allows scientists to get past the laws of classical physics to a point where turbulent liquid flow does not exist and minute droplets of samples can be used to achieve delicate and accurate measurements.

In order to expand the treatment landscape of microfluidics devices, researchers from Florida Atlantic University, Stanford University and Baskent University in Turkey developed a novel method to count CD4-positive T cells in resource-constrained, extreme weather conditions.

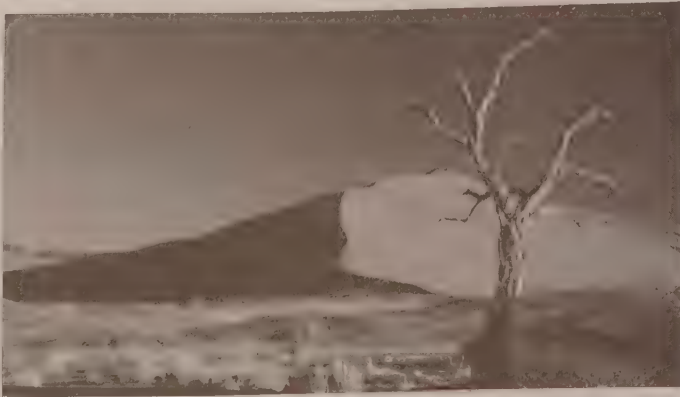
Their idea was derived from pregnancy tests,

which have long been available in the public market.

"Similar to pregnancy tests that can be stored at room temperature, we investigated methods to store and preserve multi-layer, immuno-functionalized microfluidic devices in refrigeration-free settings for applications in resource-limited settings at the point-of-care," said Utkan Demirci, senior author of the paper from Stanford University School of Medicine.

CD4-positive T cells were used due to the significance of their count in the clinical setting. For instance, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CD4-positive cell count is the most important indicator of how well an HIV patient's immune system is working and thus a strong predictor of HIV progression.

"Monitoring HIV patients at point-of-care settings in resource-constrained countries like Africa is critical to knowing how their treatment is progressing and whether or not a particular drug is working the way it should be," Waseem Asghar, co-first author on the study and assistant professor of electrical engineering in the College



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Scientists discover a new device to test for the HIV virus in extreme weather conditions.

of Engineering and Computer Science at FAU said in a press release.

The scientists turned to trehalose, a sugar molecule, to prevent degradation of the capture molecules that target CD4-positive T cells on the microfluidic device. While not holistically characterized, trehalose is present in unicellular organisms as a stress-responsive factor, i.e. it helps maintain integrity under heat, desiccation and cold.

Using this to their advantage, the scientists designed a device that contained trehalose, as well as a few drying agents. The device was stored in a vacuum-sealed plastic bag and was tested at variable times. It proved to be equal in efficiency to a freshly made device up to the four-month mark. Moreover, in terms of detecting CD4 positive T cells versus false positives, the stored device showed similar results to a freshly made device for up to six months of storage.

To simulate extreme conditions, the device

was stored at 50 degrees Celsius for 24 hours following five weeks of storage. The efficiency and specificity of the device was unchanged when compared to the freshly made device. Moreover, another set of devices was stored for 24 hours in a 30 degrees Celsius oven at 85 percent humidity. The results showed comparable similarity between the stored and freshly made devices.

The researchers also attached an electronic cell sensor to the device in order to create a cell counter that could be easily used at home. By doing so, the researchers created a portable, microscope-free CD4 T cell counting platform.

"This technology also is widely applicable to global health applications when resources are limited to address viral load, sepsis, tuberculosis and malaria, as well as cancer detection," Asghar said. "It also offers advantages in the developed world in settings such as in a primary care physician's office or in the home setting."

Curiosity spurs people toward painful tasks

CURIOSITY, FROM B7

of these participants knew exactly which pens would deliver a shock. For the other group of participants, the pens were color-coded as yellow, which meant that some of these pens had batteries while others did not. Thus, the participants were uncertain of the outcome of clicking each pen.

Ruan and Hsee then analyzed the data from the two groups of participants and found that

students who were in the yellow uncertain condition clicked significantly more pens, five on average, whereas those in the green and red condition typically clicked one green pen or two red pens.

From these data, Ruan and Hsee planned a second study to secure the validity of their hypothesis. In this study, the students were shown 10 pens of each color, and the results showed that students clicked more

uncertain yellow pens than either red or green pens.

Ruan and Hsee then tested their hypothesis with a different set of conditions by designing a third study with sounds. Participants were given a display of 48 buttons which each played a different sound. There were buttons labeled "nails," which would play the sound of nails on a chalkboard, as well as buttons labeled "water," which played

the sound of running water. A third set of buttons was labeled "?" and had an equal chance of playing either sound.

The results showed that students who saw mostly uncertain buttons clicked much more than students who saw "nails" or "water" buttons.

Taken together, these various studies seem to suggest that curiosity can drive the human mind toward unpleasant or unreasonable tasks.

Researchers regenerate esophageal tissue

ESOPHAGUS, FROM B7

metal stents to maintain the structure of the esophagus and created a bridge for the wound. The site of injury was then covered with a commercially available tissue matrix designed to help esophageal recovery.

To prevent platelet activation, doctors created a platelet-rich plasma (PRP) from patient blood and sprayed the solution over the tissue matrix. PRP is thought to secrete platelet-derived growth factors which can bind to the tissue matrix and

facilitate tissue growth. Physicians finished the surgery by covering the graft with the sternocleidomastoid muscle located along the neck.

After surgery, the graft showed no leakage, and the patient was given an oral fluid diet. At discharge, the patient was able to tolerate soft foods and was advised to have the stent removed after 12 weeks. Because of concerns regarding leakage resulting from stent removal, the patient did not have the stent removed until three years later when he suffered from recurrent difficulties in swallowing due to ulcers. When the stent was removed, researchers observed normal mucosa and a stratified squamous epithelium — the normal tissue layers — at the graft site. After four years, the patient was able to main-

tain his weight through an oral diet and have no difficulties swallowing.

The patient was given swallowing tests that allowed researchers to observe muscle movements during swallowing. The regenerated muscles could push water down the esophagus and into the stomach in various positions, suggesting a restored esophageal function.

The procedure is novel as a first human regenerative therapy that restores tissue function. However, doctors could not determine the timescale of the regeneration process due to delayed stent removal. This procedure can be a promising alternative to artificial tissues since it utilizes FDA-approved products that are commercially available and does not require complex engineering.



SANJAY ACHARYA/CC-BY-SA-3.0
Doctors have successfully created an artificial esophagus organ.

Young talent set to make MLB exciting

MLB, FROM B12
their historic World Series drought.

Over in the American League, Carlos Correa is making a name for himself for many of the same reasons that Bryant has. The Astros' shortstop was drafted first overall out of Puerto Rico in 2012 as a mere 17 year old. Last June, he was called up to the Majors and has already established himself as arguably the best shortstop in baseball.

On his way to winning the 2015 American League Rookie of the Year award after playing in just 99 games, Correa hit 22 homeruns and drove in 68 runs.

Furthermore, he helped the Astros reach the playoffs for the first time since they lost the World Series in 2005. Correa performed well in Houston's Division Series against the eventual champion Kansas City Royals, hitting a couple of homeruns and batting .350.

He is off to a great start this year. Along with the other members of Houston's impressive young core — José Altuve, George Springer, Tyler White, Preston Tucker and last year's American Cy Young Award winner Dallas Keuchel — Correa will have the Astros competing for championships for years to come.

Correa is not the only shortstop making a name for himself in his young career. Over in the American League Central, fellow Puerto Rican Francisco Lindor looks to be a crucial piece of Cleveland's playoff-hopeful roster for this year and for the foreseeable future.

The 22 year old was called up last June played 99 games in his first season, just like Correa.

While displaying a decent amount of power for a shortstop by hitting 12 homers in his limited playing time, Lindor solidified his second place position in the American League Rookie of the Year award voting with an impressive .313 batting average. With Cleveland's pitching leading the way, look for Lindor to help carry the Indians' offense alongside second baseman Jason Kipnis.

Lindor played better as the season went on and received the American League Rookie of the Month Award in September. He had 39 hits and a batting average of .325. The American League Central will be wide open this year, so expect to see Lindor have a significant im-

pact down the stretch of the division race come September.

Bryant, Correa and Lindor lead this young class with not just tremendous offensive capabilities but also with sound defense and intelligent base running.

As great as these three are, there are a plethora of other young studs that will be making some noise in the big leagues this summer if they have not already.

Quintessential prospect Byron Buxton is still looking to have his breakout in Minnesota, but it is only a matter of time until he does. His teammate, Miguel Sano, displayed extraordinary power last season. Nevertheless he needs to balance out his game so that he does not remain a homerun or nothing hitter.

Matt Duffy from San Francisco is just the next in line of the seemingly endless chain of surprisingly effective youngsters for the Giants. Expect to see him play a key role on a well-balanced San Francisco team that looks to win the World Series for the fourth consecutive year.

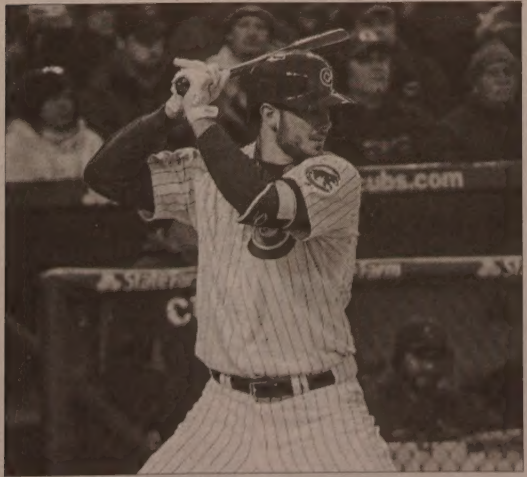
Joc Pederson of the Dodgers had a magnificent start last year before tapering off toward the end of the season. If Pederson can establish more consistency in his game, he could become one of the league's best sluggers. Pederson's teammate, baseball's top prospect Corey Seager, will also look to live up to his touted potential as the Dodgers search for a fourth consecutive division title.

There are also some youngsters who will potentially make their major league debuts at some point this season. Bronx outfielder Aaron Judge will look to begin his quest to join the Yankee greats.

Meanwhile, A.J. Reed and Josh Bell will probably have their debuts for the Astros and Pirates, respectively. They will be thrust right into their teams' playoff races.

In what seems to be a time where many veterans — such as 40 year old David Ortiz in Boston and 37 year old Adrián Beltré in Texas — are still shining, it is great to see so many young and talented players getting opportunities to succeed in the big leagues.

Which of these young stars will one day find their way into Cooperstown, N.Y. and into the pantheon of baseball's greats? Only time will tell.



FLICKR/CC-2.0-G
Kris Bryant is one of the young stars at third base for the Cubs.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
M. Lacrosse	Baseball	Baseball	M. Tennis
April 17, 2016	April 19, 2016	April 15, 2016	April 16, 2016
@ Penn State	@ Gettysburg	@ McDaniel	vs. Haverford
W, 12-11 (OT)	T, 7-7	W, 15-4	W, 8-1
W. Lacrosse	W. Track	M. Track	W. Tennis
April 17, 2016	April 16, 2016	April 15, 2016	April 17, 2016
@ Stony Brook	Hopkins/Loyola Invitational	@ Mount Multi Meet	vs. Washington College
W, 10-7	No team scoring	No team scoring	W, 8-1

M. Lax rallies in overtime to defeat Penn State

By MATT MIYAMOTO
For The News-Letter

Fresh off a victory against the Ohio State Buckeyes last Saturday, the Blue Jays men's lacrosse team was put to the test yet again this week against the Penn State Nittany Lions in a foreign state college environment. Four quarters were not enough to determine a winner this time. The game was sent into overtime, after which the Jays finally emerged victorious.

The Jays looked to be in control early in the contest, scoring four unanswered goals to start the game. Senior attackman Ryan Brown scored the first goal of the day for the Jays, making this the seventh straight game in which he scored at least one goal.

The Nittany Lions, who now have a 7-5 season record, would not go away despite the early deficit. They tacked on three unanswered goals of their own at one point to keep the contest close for the duration of the game.

Neither team scored more than two goals in a row following the Nittany Lions' run, which left the score knotted at 7-7 going into the fourth quarter, where drama ensued.

The Jays struck first in the fourth when senior midfielder Holden Cattoni scored both in the first minute and then again with eight minutes remaining. However the relentless Nittany Lions found a way to manufacture two goals of their own, tying the score at nine goals each.

Uncharacteristically quiet until this point, junior midfielder John Crawley entered the fourth quarter without a goal. This would only be temporary, though, as Crawley took over the game. Crawley first beat the keeper with his right hand off a pass from Brown and then hit a left handed, top-shelf runner to net another goal, giving the Jays a two goal cushion with under five minutes to play.

Penn State attackman Nick Aponte rebutted with a goal of his own to complete his hat trick of the day, and junior midfielder Matt Florence would even the score with less than 30 seconds remaining.

The Jays, who have

a 2-1 record in overtime contests, started off the period without the ball — always a dangerous moment in a sudden death overtime.

Freshman attackman Alex Concannon recognized the precarious situation and pointed to the complete team effort that was necessary to turn it into a chance to score the winning goal.

"It was a very tense moment," Concannon said. "Penn State had possession first, but I was confident our defense would stay strong and cause them to turn the ball over. Austin Spencer made a great play and caused his man to turn the ball over. We were able to get the ball down the field. Cody Radziewicz dodged down the alley and was able to find John [Crawley] on the back-side, and he was able to put it away. The atmosphere was great."

Crawley finished off his hat trick, and the Jays celebrated a hard-earned Conference road win.

It took the Jays more than allotted time in regulation to take down the

Nittany Lions last year as well when they won a double overtime battle on Homewood field under the lights. Following the victory last year, the Jays went on a six game win streak that led them to the semifinals of the NCAA Championships.

Concannon commented on how this victory has had a similar galvanizing effect so far.

"It was a big Conference win and gives us good vibes this week during practice," the attackman said.

The Jays will head to

Ann Arbor, Mich. this weekend, where they will face a Wolverine squad coming off a six-game losing streak.

The Wolverines have played well at home, almost upsetting No. 5 University of Maryland and keeping games much more competitive than on the road. The Jays will look to channel their "good vibes" of the prior week into the game versus Michigan and beyond, into their push for the playoffs.

Faceoff is at 5 p.m. in Michigan Stadium.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Patrick Foley named Big Ten Freshman of the Week after Penn State.

Baseball shift phenomenon ridiculous

Ian Gustafson
Sportpinion

Professional baseball and even D-I college managers have become obsessed with advanced metrics that tell them where individual players on opposing squads tend to hit the ball.

As recently as 2011, only four teams repositioned their players on more than 100 balls in play during the entire season. Now it is not uncommon for managers to employ a shift for almost every guy in the lineup.

Metrics and spray charts that track where players tend to get their hits have become incredibly advanced and certainly must be very tempting tools for managers.

It undoubtedly makes sense to have three infielders on the right side of the diamond when a dead pull hitter like David Ortiz steps to the dish. How-

ever, in more marginal areas, I believe that managers are outthinking themselves.

I have seen way too many, soft ground balls hit up the middle go for base hits against shortstops who were put deep in the six hole to think that this obsessive shifting is effective.

This emphasis on shifting for nearly every player neglects a fundamental part of the game — the ability to make adjustments.

As Wee Willie Keeler, he of the .385 lifetime batting average once said, "Hit it where they ain't." I truly believe that major league hitters are good enough to make subtle adjustments in their swings to take advantage of the often enormous holes in the defense that shifts afford them.

As a lifelong Braves fan, I watched Brian McCann lay down countless bunts down the third base-line for a hit. Against him, opposing teams put

the third basemen where the shortstop normally stands and three infielders on the right side of the pitcher's mound.

They were neither good bunts nor is McCann a quick guy, but it was a very effective strategy. That is obviously an exaggerated example, but the principle still applies.

If a good hitter sees a team playing him one way, he's going to try to hit it the other way. Trying to take advantage of these guys' natural tendencies will backfire in the long run.

I don't know what spurred the shift revolution, but I do know that it unnecessarily complicates and slows the game. I would rather have guys playing straight up instead of stroking the manager or team statistician's ego. Here's to the days before the video review and before mass shifts, the good ol' days of baseball.

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
ZACH JAFFE — BASEBALL

By MAGGIE SPITZER
For The News-Letter

Last Saturday, the Hopkins baseball team added to the excitement of Spring Fair with a double-header sweep of Swarthmore College, with final scores of 10-3 and 12-0, respectively.

On Tuesday, the Jays tied Gettysburg after a grueling game, but are looking forward to further wins. Sophomore Zach Jaffe's recent performance has inspired the Jays.

In the second victory of that afternoon, Jaffe smashed a grand slam out of the Babb Field. With that single swing, Jaffe not only delivered his first career homer, but also sent the ball straight onto University Parkway.

Jaffe kindly agreed to sit down with *The News-Letter*, sharing thoughts on Saturday's performance, the team's exciting run that has led them to first position in the conference and the prospect of playoffs.

The News-Letter: In what ways have you seen yourself improve the most since your freshman year? How have you worked to improve on your weaknesses?

Zach Jaffe: The aspects of my game that I have most improved upon are virtually all mental. I came in as somewhat of a head case and often times let bad streaks get worse and wasn't able to gain the coaches' trust to perform on the field. Now I'm much more relaxed when I play, and while I was always a jokester in the locker room, now I don't let that get in the way of my game.

A lot of the improvements come with experience and knowing you're expected to perform. We have a "next guy up" mentality on our team, so whenever somebody isn't playing well, the next guy is expected to step up.

N-L: How did it feel to hit the grand slam? What thoughts were running through your head during that at bat?

ZJ: It obviously felt great to get a big hit. Every Conference game at this point in the season is a must-win game, and that gave us a seven run lead in that game. I've had some rough moments and some injuries this year, and it felt good to finally

ly deliver. I knew that he was going to come at me with fastballs like he did earlier when I struck out, so I sat back and put a good swing on the 1-0 fastball. It was a huge monkey off my back... It had been well over a year since I had hit a home run in any game situation.

N-L: With the double header sweep of Swarthmore, the team has reached a nine-game win streak. How is the team morale heading into these final two weeks?

ZJ: Team morale is incredible right now. Never have I been a part of a team as close as we are, and when you are winning everything is always better. We are confident that when we play our best, nobody in our Conference can beat us. The team is getting incredible contributions from everybody, and everybody feels as if they are a crucial part of the team down the stretch.

N-L: Do you think your ranking as first in the Centennial Conference is affecting how the team approaches the next games?

ZJ: Short answer is no. We treat every game as if it's a key game. We put pressure on ourselves

as the favorite in every game and expect to win. We know that the longer we are at the top of the standings, the harder every team is going to play us.

N-L: Do you have any personal goals for the remaining weeks? Team goals?

ZJ: Personally, I'm just hoping to contribute where I can, whether it be off the bench as a spark or in the starting lineup holding down one of the outfield positions. I know that I can be an energy booster when I'm on the field.

Our goal right now is to win the Conference regular season title and to host the Conference tournament. It's very hard to beat us as home. Past that, we want to win the regional and advance to the College World Series in Appleton, Wis. That has been the goal since Day 1.

Jaffe and the Jays will return to action today at home versus the Gettysburg College Bullets, whom they tied in extra innings on Tuesday. Then they will travel to Ursinus College to take on the Bears in a pivotal Conference matchup. With the playoffs just a couple weeks away, the Blue Jay offense is starting to hit its stride at the right time.

Baseball throttles
Swarthmore at home

BASEBALL, FROM B12

game, a powerful blast which made it all the way to University Parkway.

In dramatic fashion, this towering shot also happened to be a grand slam that stretched Hopkins' lead to six and officially put the game out of reach.

As a young, emerging player on this talented Jays squad, Jaffe will certainly remember this moment for the rest of his career. Hopefully for both Jaffe and his teammates, this is only just the beginning of many impact plays and outstanding home runs to come over the next two seasons.

Reflecting on the moments that directly led up to and followed his defining blast, Jaffe discussed how Swarthmore pitcher Aidan Miller had bested him in his earlier plate appearance, and that he wanted to be aggressive in order to avoid putting himself in another two strike count.

"I knew I was going to get a pitch to hit as he fell down 1-0 and it probably was going to be a fastball so I sat on it and was able to put a good swing on it. He struck me out in the at bat before on a high fastball and I didn't want to let him get to two strikes," Jaffe said. "It was incredible running the bases and delivering a key hit for us. I know my teammates were just as excited as I was when the ball left the park."

Jaffe credits much of

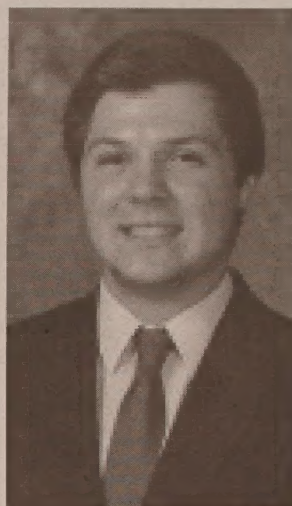
his recent success due to a profound growth in his emotional maturity and approach to the sport, crediting his teammates and coaches for humbling him and motivating him to become a better player.

"The biggest change for me has been mentally, I came in as a cocky freshman and the program, coaches and my teammates have humbled me and pushed me to work harder and have fun," Jaffe said.

Whether he is able to regularly work his way into the starting lineup or continues to provide a spark off the bench for the Jays, Jaffe is committed to helping his team win and helping them achieve their goal of winning a Conference title and ultimately making it back to the College World Series.

"I hope to contribute any way I can heading towards the playoffs, whether it be as a spark off the bench or in the starting lineup. Our goal is to make it all the way to the College World Series in Appleton [Wis.] just like it has been from day one. We know we can't be beat when we're firing on all cylinders," Jaffe said.

You can catch this talented squad in action when they host the Gettysburg College Bullets at Babb field on Thursday, April 21. First pitch is at 3:30 p.m. in what should prove to be an exciting contest. The Bullets and Jays tied in their contest earlier this week, and Hopkins will look to get back on track.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Pitcher Nick Burns picked up his second win of the season on Saturday.

Stony Brook's late rally downs Lady Jays

W. LAX, FROM B12

1:26 left to play in the half, and the two teams headed to the locker room for half-time with the Jays holding the 5-2 advantage.

The tide turned quickly at the start of the second half, with the Seawolves scoring five straight goals within the first five minutes of the period to give them a 7-5 lead. From then on Stony Brook did not look back.

While the Jays were able to trim the lead to one, courtesy of a goal by DiMartino at the 18:22

son finale against Boston College.

"I think for BC [Boston College] we want to end our regular season on a great win," Schweizer said. "We have had a big win against a higher ranked team waiting for us for some time now. I hope the energy that we bring into that game exceeds all games this season."

DiMartino acknowledged the importance of the game for the team.

"We know we need a solid win against a ranked opponent so we absolutely

need this game to have any chance of making our ultimate goal to be in the tournament," she said. "I know for us seniors, we especially don't want this

to be our last game."

Whether the team makes the tournament, both Schweizer and DiMartino said they were proud of their teammates' efforts all season long.

"We gave every team a fight that's for sure including top-ranked Maryland and even Stanford, we just couldn't finish one of those big games, which is a huge bummer," DiMartino said.

Schweizer commended her team's ability to stick together even when faced with frustration.

"Seven losses is hard on any team, and it can be

easy to turn on each other or throw the towel in and give up, and I can proudly say that my team never once did this," she said.

The Jays will next travel up to Newton, Mass. to play the Boston College Eagles in the season finale on Saturday, April 23. Faceoff is scheduled for 1 p.m.

At 9-7, the Jays will be in line for a playoff bid, but certainly the onus is on them to prove they are capable of taking down some top teams and making a run.

Hopkins has sometimes struggled to defend high-flying offenses this year, and that will undoubtedly be one of their main priorities moving forward.

This is a team with a ton of senior leadership, especially DiMartino, who has had an incredible career by any measure during her time here. Teams with that kind of senior firepower tend to make some noise in the postseason in any sport.

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Jaffe credits much of

Track runs their only home meet of the year

TRACK, FROM B12

in second and sophomore Ellie Burton in fifth.

"Being new to the event, it was incredibly helpful to have older teammates and great coaches to give me advice while training and racing," Freed said.

Clocking a 11:32 finish, Freed crossed the line in first followed closely by her teammates, junior Lara Gaffney in second and sophomore Ellie Burton in fifth. Freed will likewise continue to focus on the steeplechase heading into the Conference Championship later in the season.

Along with the Lady Jay's success in the steeple, the women also encountered exceptional performances in the middle distance events. Sophomore Caroline Smith placed second in the 1500m run, crossing the line in a personal-

best time of 4:36. She was followed closely by her freshmen teammates, Felicia Koerner and Gina D'Addario, who also performed well.

Smith trailed the first place finisher, a senior from American, by less than three seconds. Later, the sophomore came back to compete in the 800m run, where she crossed the line in sixth with an impressive time of 2:16.

The Jays expressed how nice it was to have a home crowd for a change, and many got to enjoy the Spring Fair atmosphere after their meet. There was a substantial crowd on hand at the track to support the runners.

Next week, the track team will be back to compete as they travel down to Westchester, Pa. for the Widener Invitational.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Sophia Meehan will hope to cap her storied career with a championship.

"I hope the energy that we bring into [our final] game exceeds all games this season."

— JUNIOR HALEY SCHWEIZER

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Patrick Foley was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Week for his outstanding game performance against Penn State.

CALENDAR

Saturday
M. Lax @ University of Michigan, 5 p.m.
W. Lax @ Boston College, 1 p.m.
W. Tennis @ Muhlenberg College, 12 p.m.

MLB's young stars on display early on

Daniel Landy
Sportpinion

After a long, grueling winter, spring has finally arrived and brought the baseball season with it. Veteran players will continue to leave an impact on the game while the youngsters try to make a name for themselves.

The past several seasons have seen unusually young players become household names in the League very quickly, as 23-year-old Bryce Harper of the Washington Nationals and Manny Machado of the Baltimore Orioles as well as 24-year-old Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels have already established themselves as the leaders of the sport's next generation of superstars.

With two MVP awards, two Rookie of the Year awards, nine All-Star Game appearances, five Silver Slugger awards and two Gold Glove awards already spread amongst the trio, baseball is clearly in great hands for the long run.

And believe it or not, this group of players who are barely older than college students has already been overtaken in the rising star category by the next set of studs. This group is headlined by Kris Bryant of the Chicago Cubs, Carlos Correa of the Houston Astros and Francisco Lindor of the

Cleveland Indians.

Bryant, Chicago's third baseman and the 2015 National League Rookie of the Year, is one of many reasons why the Cubs are the favorites to win the World Series this year. While he is 24 and older than Harper and Machado, Bryant played three years of college baseball at the University of San Diego, which gave him invaluable experience and gave him the chance to polish his skills before becoming a professional ballplayer.

Bryant, who was selected to play in the All-Star Game less than three months after being called up to the major leagues, has already transcended the game as a dependable run producer and, more importantly, as a sensational slugger.

After his mid-April call up, Bryant bashed 26 home runs and drove in 99 runs, all the while helping the Cubs reach the playoffs for the first time since 2008 and the National League Championship Series for the first time since 2003.

Bryant makes up just part of Chicago's young core, which also consists of Anthony Rizzo, Addison Russell, Jorge Soler, Kyle Schwarber and Javier Báez.

His immediate strong impact and his plate discipline are what make him stand out as the player who will lead Chicago going forward, as the Cubs look to ending

SEE MLB, PAGE B10

Tennis teams experience grueling weekend



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Both tennis teams played a weekend that foreshadowed the format of the NCAA Championships with back-to-back-to-back matches. The men's team fell 7-2 to No. 1 Emory University but felt that the experience they gained would be invaluable moving forward. Also senior Nicholas Garcia with a victory this weekend moved into seventh place on the all-time Hopkins rankings for career wins. Both the men's and women's teams won critical Conference matchups and continue to enjoy success in the Centennial. See Page B11

MLB Defensive Shifts

Sports Editor Ian Gustafson weighs in on the rise in ubiquitous defensive shifts in professional baseball. His conclusion? They ignore a fundamental principle of baseball history.

Page B10

M. Lacrosse wins OT Thriller versus Penn State

The men's lacrosse team, buoyed by the play of freshman Patrick Foley, emerged victorious in a nail-biter versus the Nittany Lions that ended with a snipe from junior John Crawley that sent the Jays home celebrating.

Page B10

Track excels in the steeplechase at home

By EMILIE HOFFER
For The News-Letter

This past weekend the Hopkins men's and women's track and field teams witnessed outstanding performances at their only home meet of the year. Before hosting Saturday's competition, the teams' field athletes traveled to Emmitsburg, Md. to compete in the Mount Multi Meet hosted by Mount St. Mary's University.

Several Hopkins athletes had their best performances of the season thus far at the Multi Meet. For the men, senior Devin Conley competed in the decathlon, finishing the 10 events with a score of 6,394. The highlight of the senior's performance was his finish in the high jump and long jump. He now leads the Conference in both of these events along with his overall decathlon score.

Conley's performance was accompanied by equally impressive performances on the women's side. Sophomore Jenn Su and senior Paige Marsh finished first and second, respectively, in the heptathlon.

Su's finish in the javelin throw leads the Centennial Conference rankings, while Marsh's high jump broke the outdoor record for Hopkins. Both of the Jays finished with scores in the heptathlon that broke the previous Hopkins record.

Then next day, the Jays brought the action back to Baltimore for the Hopkins/Loyola University Invitational. The climax of the day for the men was seen during the distance events. In the 5000 meter

run, sophomore Brandon Fielder led the team with a third place finish followed by senior teammate Schaffer Ochstein in sixth.

Senior Billy Scola won the 3000 meter steeplechase with a personal record that shattered his previous best race time by 13 seconds.

From the start, Scola and his teammate, freshman Giacomo Taylor, led the way, but with two laps to go Scola took over. The Jays crossed the line capturing first

and second place in the event.

"I definitely wanted to win," Scola said. "But I did not want to get my hopes up too much."

The competition had Scola skeptical before the race as the top five men were seeded eight seconds ahead of his previous personal best. Still, Scola went away with the win. The senior will focus on the steeplechase, eyeing a top three finish in the Conference Championship.

Not only did the Jays

take home the first place finish in the men's steeplechase, but freshman Tasha Freed secured the win in the women's race as well.

This was the freshman's first time racing in the 3000 meter steeplechase, which involves 7.5 laps around the track while dodging 28 barriers and seven water hazards. Clocking a 11:32 finish, Freed crossed the line in first closely followed by her teammates: junior Lara Gaffney

SEE TRACK, PAGE B11

W. Lax falls to No. 8 Stony Brook Seawolves

By GAURAV VERMA
Staff Writer

The No. 20 women's lacrosse team fell this past Sunday to the No. 8 Stony Brook Seawolves on the road in Long Island. The loss drops them to 9-7 entering the season finale, while Stony Brook improves to 11-3.

Hopkins opened the game with three goals in the first 10 minutes, the first coming courtesy of junior midfielder Haley Schweizer less than two minutes into play. Just 75 seconds later, sophomore attack Emily Kenul doubled the lead with senior attack Jenna Reifler collecting the assist. Senior Dene' DiMartino scored just before the 10-minute mark to give the Jays the 3-0 lead early in



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Senior Jenna Reifler led the Lady Jays in assists against the Seawolves.

the game.

The Seawolves' Pre-season All-American junior attack Dorrien van Dyke would capitalize on a free position attempt at the 15:49 mark to cut the Lady Jays lead to two. Hopkins, however, would quickly add on two more goals, the first coming from sophomore midfielder Shannon Fitzgerald, with the assist coming from her teammate, sophomore attacker Cee Cee Finney.

Just over a minute later, Finney would score a goal of her own, with Reifler picking up her second assist on the game, to give Hopkins a 5-1 lead. Stony Brook cut this lead to three after junior Courtney Murphy scored with

SEE W. LAX, PAGE B11

Offense powers Jays against Swarthmore

By ANDREW JOHNSON
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Hopkins baseball team headed into their Saturday evening with a celebratory attitude following a pair of dominant victories over visiting the Swarthmore College Garnet.

In the opening contest of the doubleheader, the Jays beat the Garnet by a 10-3 margin. Sophomore Nick Burns picked up the victory for the Jays on the mound, improving his record to 2-0 on the season.

The second game of the double header followed a similar narrative, as the Jays utilized power hitting and dominant work on the mound to breeze past Swarthmore by a 12-0 mark. Registering the win in this second contest was freshman Wyatt Lam, who pitched

six scoreless innings of one-hit ball and recorded the first victory of his young career for the Jays. In the evening portion of the double header, the Jays offense was powered by four home runs, including two by junior shortstop Connor Reynolds.

With the victories, the Jays moved to 21-9-1 on the season, and are 8-2 in the Centennial Conference. The Garnet dropped to 18-12 with their two losses, and their Centennial Conference record sits at 2-6.

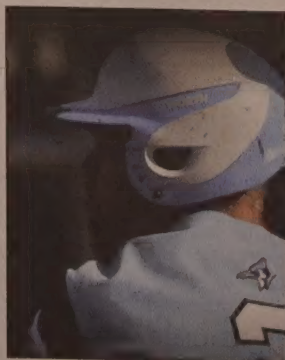
For the 25th consecu-

tive season, the Jays have notched twenty or more victories.

The nine-game winning streak that the team is currently riding is their longest since the 2013 season, and the

Jays sit in sole possession of first place in the Centennial Conference.

Paramount to the offensive explosion on Saturday were the contributions of sophomore outfielder



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Connor Reynolds hit two home runs in game two against Swarthmore.

Zach Jaffe, who crushed the first home run of his career in the fourth inning of the second

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